

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

11:45 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Joel McCartney, Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre / Chair
Kim Bordignon, Cochrane Temiskaming Children's Treatment Centre / Vice-Chair
Mackenzie Carrier, Community Living Timmins
Ron McInnis, NCDSB Trustee
Billie Richer, VOICE for Hearing Impaired
Colleen Landers, NCDSB Chair
Daphne Brumwell, Superintendent of Education
Catherine Hoven, Special Assignment Teacher
Katie Mundle, Special Assignment Teacher
Jean Ethier, Education Services Officer / Recorder

EXCUSED: Mark Lionello, Canadian Mental Health Association
William (Bill) Russell, The Lord's Kitchen
Ellen Renaud, North Eastern Ontario Family and Children's Services

1. Welcome and Prayer

Joel McCartney welcomed everyone and led the group in prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: C.Landers

SECONDED BY: K.Bordignon

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOVED BY: K. Bordignon

SECONDED BY: M. Carrier

THAT the minutes of October 30, 2019 be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

4. October 31st Data

Daphne presented the ONSIS data for Special Education based on October 31st data. Between April 2019 and October 2019, there has been an increase in students identified by the IPRC of 1.3%. We are also seeing a small increase in the number of students with non-identified IEPs. We have a total of 343 identified students and another 182 with non-identified IEPs. The category with the largest increase continues to be Autism. Staffing allocations are currently being reviewed with additional EAs being assigned to St. Joseph for the Special Needs class, Pope Francis and St. Pat's Cobalt due to new enrolments and/or needs identified through the High Needs Audit.

5. Professional Learning : Plans for 2019-2020

Wendy O'Neill and Jeff Hockett from Sagonaska Demonstration School visited our area at the end of November to check in with 2 NCDSB students that previously attended Sagonaska. Wendy and Jeff also completed assessments on an O'Gorman High School student who is entering the next stage in the application process. During their visit, Wendy and Jeff hosted a learning session, entitled "Executive Functioning and Fostering Efficacious Kids" for all RTs, one classroom teacher and one EA from each school.

In a June survey conducted with EAs, Google Read and Write Training was identified as a PD Topic staff felt was needed. Andrew Swartz will be working with schools to set up the course that will be moderated by him, but offered through the e-Hub. We have set aside January 23, 24, 27 and 28th for this purpose.

Our Numeracy Facilitators continue to offer side-by-side coaching for staff to support math learning. Focus schools have been selected based on Ministry of Education direction. Holy Family, St. Jerome, Sacred Heart, St. Joseph and BBS have all been identified as supported schools. Using the Whole School Approach, staff will engage in learning related to specific student need identified through assessment. Our RTs will be part of the team.

6. SIP Incidence Portion Funding

We have just sent off our SIP funding requests for this year. We were able to submit 3 claims this year. All claims are a result of the special needs classrooms we have put in place. Claims totaling \$48,065 has been submitted. In 2018-2019 we received just over \$13,000 in funding. Though we spent a half day visiting Nipissing Parry-Sound Catholic to see how we might generate more funding, we were only able to figure out how to claim for 3 students. We will continue to explore possibilities over the next school year.

7. Behaviour Support/Safety Plans

On December 4th, the Behaviour Support Team provided a half day of training for Principals, CYWs and RTs related to Behaviour Support Plans and Behaviour Safety Plans. We recognized that we had not done a good enough job helping schools understand the difference between the two, nor provided enough support in the creation, implementation and monitoring of these plans. Schools were asked to

complete the creation of such plans for all students who might need one before Christmas. It is expected that all students at a Tier 3 level would have a plan, and most Tier 2 would as well. Schools have been asked to populate a document that will summarize the students who are at each Tier and the date of implementation of the plans (as required). 11 Schools have responded to date and we have 102 students on a classroom program, 74 on individual programs at the Tier 1 level, 66 at Tier 2, 34 at Tier 3 and 27 with Safety Plans.

A behaviour support plan is a written plan that is designed to target the underlying reason for behaviour, replace the inappropriate behaviours with an appropriate behaviour that serves the same function, and reduce or eliminate the challenging behaviour.

A safety plan is a plan developed for a student whose behavior is known to pose an ongoing risk to him or herself, other students, staff, or other people in general. It can serve as a crisis-response plan that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the staff in dealing with specific problem behaviours. The development of a safety plan involves all staff who work on an ongoing basis with a student, as well as parents and the representatives from any community agencies working with a student/family. A safety plan should also be used to address a serious medical concern (i.e. 4 prevalent medical conditions, physical needs that limit mobility). For example a student who might be in a wheelchair may need a plan for safe exit of the school in an emergency.

8. Agency Reports

Cochrane Temiskaming Childrens Treatment Center

The Cochrane Temiskaming Children's Treatment Centre has recently hired a Social Worker and a Co-Ordinated Service Planner. The agency is also now responsible for managing the caseload for School Health Services. This includes Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy as well as Speech Language Therapy. To address this new caseload, the agency has hired a Speech Therapist is Timmins and Two Occupational Therapists in the Temiskaming District as well as two Therapy Assistants.

Date of Next Meeting:

January 29, 2019

9. Other Business

Memo from the Ontario Catholic Trustees' Association – please see attached

10. Adjournment

MOVED BY: M. Carrier
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 1:00 p.m.
CARRIED.