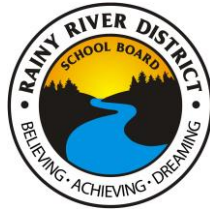




REPORT

Special Education Advisory Committee

- *Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting February 10, 2016.*



Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes
Education Centre
February 10, 2016 – 12:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Kelly Forbes, Special Education Administrator; Casey Slack, Superintendent of Education; Allene Perusse, Community Living-Fort Frances & District; Dianne McCormack, Chair, Rainy River District School Board; Angela Mainville, Seven Generations Education Institute; Kim Redford, Parent; Lorraine Gauthier-Stromberg, Kenora-Rainy River District Child & Family Services (videoconference); Christie Gushulak, Community Living-Atikokan (videoconference); Sandra Turner, Confederation College

REGRETS: Shelley Dion, Firefly; Allan McManaman, Superintendent of Education

ABSENT: Sandra Turner, Confederation College Representative

STAFF: Sandra Ward, Recording Secretary

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Allene Perusse, at 12:03 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was amended to exclude the Introduction and Welcome and revised changes to Section II of the Special Education Plan were added as a handout to replace item 7 b in the agenda package. A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Lorraine Stromberg and seconded by Kim Redford.

3. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

There was no disclosure of conflict of interest.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

Approval of the minutes of January 13, 2016 was motioned by Kim Redford and seconded by Allene Perusse.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Feedback for 2016-2017 Budget Preparation

A draft memo based on comments from the Committee at the previous meeting was reviewed. All were in favour of submitting the memo to the Superintendent of Business for consideration in the 2016-2017 budget preparation process.

6. New Business

a) Presentation – Kari-Lynn Beckett, Student Work Study Teacher

The Student Work Study Teacher gave an overview of her role within the School Board. Literacy and Numeracy is at the forefront of the classroom supports provided by the Student Work Study Teacher. Incorporating mindfulness and student well-being supports is also an important component to help facilitate learning. Examples of resources being used and an overview of the Mind Up program was covered. Discussion followed regarding the benefits of the Mind Up program and Yoga. An online Mind-Up Google Classroom and a Yoga Resources



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Google Classroom are available to teachers so they can access resources and ideas for lesson plans.

b) Special Education Plan Amendments Section II

A revised handout of the proposed changes was reviewed. The Special Education Administrator noted that she observed in other School Board's plans, there is no reference to school year revisions. Rather than having the date throughout the document and changing every year, it was suggested there only be a revised date on the front cover. All were in favour.

Where the document referenced Board Policy, it was proposed that there be a hyperlink to the Policy. All were in favour.

The Special Education Administrator encouraged the Committee to forward any other possible proposed changes to her attention in advance of the next meeting.

7. Correspondence

a) Policies Under Review

Policies that are currently out for stakeholder input were shared with Committee members and they were asked to relay any feedback regarding these policies to Kaylie Lundgren at kaylie.lundgren@mail.rrdsb.com, by Monday February 22, 2016. All feedback will be brought to the attention of the Policy Committee.

8. Special Education Administrator's Report

Kelly Forbes, Special Education Administrator for the Rainy River District School Board, provided highlights of the February report.

- A Behavioural Management System (BMS) training PD day was held in partnership with Project Sunset in collaboration with Crossroads School.
- 21st Century Learning Project update.

The Special Education Administrator provided a reminder that committee members are invited to attend PD sessions that are provided.

9. Future Meeting

The next Special Education Advisory Committee meeting is Wednesday March 9, 2016.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:49 p.m.



RAINY RIVER DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Special Education Report

Date: February 10, 2016
To: Special Education Advisory Committee
From: Kelly Forbes
Principal of School Support Services / Special Education Administrator

Recommendation: It is recommended that the report be received for information only.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Continue to support the well-being of students, honoring their strengths to ensure the foundation for their success.

CONTEXT

To inform the Special Education Advisory Committee of the supports and programming being provided for students with special needs.

SUMMARY

21st Century Learning

On February 9th the Special Education Administrator, STEM Coordinator, and Superintendent of Education attended the 21st Century Learning Symposium in Toronto. The team had the opportunity to share some of the great work being done within the Rainy River District School Board in terms of technology as well as learn about best practices happening within other boards throughout the province.

Special Education Resource Teacher Training

On January 18th and 19th, the Special Education Resource Teachers (SERTs) received training from Dr. Jennifer Sullivan on the WIAT-III achievement assessment. Other topics for the day included IEP best practices, transition plans, communication with parents/guardians, resources available to schools and Special Education Equipment Amount (SEA) claims.

Behaviour Management Systems Training

On January 28th, the Special Education Administrator and Behavioural Therapist facilitated a full day Behaviour Management Systems (BMS) training session for teachers of Crossroads School, Band members of Naicatchewenin First Nation, and community members who are involved with Project Sunset. The day focused on positive, proactive, and strength based strategies that can be used to minimize the escalation of negative behaviours.



Professional Development for Educational Support Personnel

The Educational Support Personnel (ESP) group attended a variety of professional development sessions on January 29th. Training sessions included the following topics: Behaviour Management Systems, numeracy and literacy, Applied Behaviour Analysis, indigenous education supports, communication strategies, mental health, and technology.

Early Years Registration

J. W. Walker School and Robert Moore School included a knowledge sharing fair as part of their Early Years Registration open house events. The Special Education Administrator and Behavioural Therapist had a booth at each of the events so that parents of students with special needs would have the opportunity to ask any initial questions that they had regarding services for students with special needs at the Rainy River District School Board.

ROUTING

SEAC

February 16, 2016
