

JAMES BAY LOWLANDS SECONDARY SCHOOL BOARD &
MOOSONEE DISTRICT SCHOOL AREA BOARD

Combined Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Minutes

Date: Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Time: 3:30 pm

Location: Board Office Meeting Room

In Attendance: Charlene Reuben (Co-Chair) – MDSAB Trustee
Andrea Haule – MPS Vice-Principal
Kelly Tomatuk – MPS SERT
Veronica Shortt – MPS SERT
Stella Koostachin – MPS SERT
Yvonne Morrison – NLSS SERT
Shawn Klingenberg – NLSS Principal
Brian Panaligan – James Bay Association for Community Living
Jessica Carter - Cochrane Temiskaming Children's Treatment Centre
Angela Bellaire – Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre (via Google Meet)
Angela Tozer – JBLSSB & MDSAB Director of Education

Regrets: Pauline Sackaney (Co-Chair) – JBLSSB Trustee
Dorinda Vincent – Child & Youth Milopemahtesewin Services (CYMS) Payukotayno

Call to Order: Meeting started at 3:37 pm

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Kelly Tomatuk seconded by Yvonne Morrison

Approval of May 7, 2024 Minutes: Moved by Andrea Haule and seconded by Veronica Shortt

2024-2025 Special Education Services and Supports – Updates

Moosonee Public School Overview:

- 3 SERT support model in place; ELK to grade 2, grade 3 to 5, and grade 6 to 8
- Extra student literacy and numeracy resource periods supported by Music teacher, Library Resource teacher, and Vice-Principal positions
- Physical spaces at MPS available for special education programming for students with special education needs: 3 SERT classrooms, snoezelen room and calming room
- Approximately 70 students have IEPs in place
- First set of IPRC's completed from Education Psychologist visit in April of 2024
- 4 Education Psychology assessments completed this fall by partnering with CYMS
- Working with MOE Provincial Demonstration School to support programming needs for a student assessed as being Deaf, anticipating on-site support in December 2024
- Currently partnering with Silent Voices to hire a Language Acquisition Support Work (LASW)

Northern Lights Secondary School:

- Due to staffing challenges a different Special Education delivery model in place for this school year, currently down 2 teaching positions

- All IEPs were completed for first semester in September with teachers, parents and students contributing on the IEP development
- 1 SERT available 2 sections per day, 3 Education Assistants, and 1 Well-being Education Assistant
- 43 students IPRC'd on IEP and 3 students on non-identified IEPs (a little bit over 10 per grade distribution)
- Physical spaces at NLSS available for special education programming for students with special education needs: Room 109 (quiet working location – used as a transition space), Independent Learning Centre (all 4 periods, supported by teacher), SERT office space
- Literacy and Numeracy lunch-time tutoring program is taking place every day to better support students in being successful in their courses
- New grade 9 students are comfortable with SERT, as they met NLSS SERT through MPS hosted grade 8 IPRC meetings in the Spring of 2024, very valuable experience for building relationships and connections
- Intentional focus on developing student self-advocating skills

Overview of Agency Supports or Programming Available

Jessica Carter - Cochrane Temiskaming Children's Treatment Centre

- Supports Occupation Therapy (OT), Physical Therapy (PT) and Speech Language (SL) services in Moosonee, Moose Factory and the 4 coastal communities
- MPS is part of a 3-year tiered service OT roll-out, this has been a very positive model (lessen wait lists, needs identified earlier, can implement programming supports faster, seeing a difference in volume of referrals and positive experience being in classrooms)
- Most of the student support from CTCTC is being done in elementary settings for OT, SP and PT

Jessica Carter – Kids Inclusive

- Focus is on working with students to communicate (speaking and writing) with social worker support as well
- Last 3 visits, 12 to 15 families were supported
- Partnership with WAHA for autistic diagnosis, 19 assessments completed last year, 29 planned for this year, lots of students getting missed with ASD, working with Doctors, Nurse Practitioners and Registered Nurses to know when to make referrals, next referral support roll-out will be with education staff

Angela Bellaire – Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre

- Supports individuals with developmental disabilities from birth to final days (infant, children, teens, adults and seniors)
- Regional service provider, head office in Timmins serving communities from Moosonee to Peawanuck
- 7 main program areas available and team(s) travels every 3 to 4 months
- Advocacy support for individuals – working with all to understand and support the need for inclusion in communities, supports also available for families in navigating support services

Brian Panaligan – James Bay Association for Community Living

- Non-profit organization in Moosonee supporting individuals 18 and over with developmental disabilities strive towards living independent lives
- Programming available: essential services, independence, 24-hour care in group homes to less support (depending on needs), community participation support (social / engagement / connections)
- Employment services, job training and placement, and job coaching
- Offers Respite Care for families to provide 24-hour relief support
- Passport funding available to support travel and experience for individuals with developmental disabilities

Professional Development

- Clevr Workshop materials have been created by SERTS at MPS to support education staff in IEP development
- Carousel session held at NLSS to support education staff in implementing IEP accommodations, experienced staff working with newer staff
- Ministry of Education subsidies in place for 2 teachers at both MPS and NLSS to take additional qualifications courses in the 2024-2025 school year
- Autism course available for education staff to take through Sonderly

SEAC Recommendations Special Education Board Plan (Standing Item)

- No items discussed

New Business:

- Investigate needs from Colleges and Universities for getting Education Psychology assessments completed prior to graduating secondary school
- Focus investigation on Colleges and Universities that students at NLSS mostly apply to (Sudbury, Timmins and North Bay)

Other:

- No items discussed

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 @ 3:30 pm

Tuesday, April 1, 2025 @ 3:30 pm

Tuesday, June 3, 2025 @ 3:30 pm

Adjournment: Meeting ended at 4:53 pm, Moved by Andrea Haule and seconded by Brian Panaligan