



MINUTES

Mental Health Leadership Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 15, 2020
3:30-5:00 PM
Microsoft Teams

Chair: Laura Conboy

Recorder: Lynne Rousseau

Attendees: Laura Conboy, Alison McDonnell, Lynne Rousseau, Wendy Morrison, Shawn Quigley, Cheryl Snider, Tom Revell, Suche James, Maureen Bartlett, Nicola Dillard, Ellyn Cross-Lambert, Kristin Fossum, Kristy Luffman, Shona Ribbel, Gillian Gunn

Regrets: Melissa Hillman, Gillianne Mundell, Megan Cochrane

Agenda Item	Discussions/Decisions	MRP
1. Introductions	<p>Land acknowledgement shared.</p> <p>Welcome to the new members of the committee: Wendy Morrison (Maltby Centre), Shawn Quigley and Tom Revell (Kairos), Nicola Dillard (elementary administrator), Cheryl Snider (elementary educator), Kristy Luffman (EA affinity representative) who are all present today. Melissa Hillman (parent representative), Jessica Crook (student representative) and Gillianne Mundell (Indigenous Education Consultant) are also new to the committee but sent their regrets.</p> <p>Thank you to Kristin Fossum who will be going on maternity leave at the end of this month. Kristin Fossum's vacancy will be filled by Catherine Greene.</p>	L. Conboy
2. Approval of Agenda	No new additions to the agenda.	All
3. Approval of Minutes	No changes to the June 2020 minutes. Approved.	All
4. SMHO Updates	<p>Many of the School Mental Health Ontario (SMHO) Return to School Toolkit resources have been shared out with the system.</p> <p>SMHO continues add new portfolios including an administrator lead, educator lead, remote learning lead, and equity lead.</p>	L. Conboy



	<p>There was no board scan in 2019-2020 due to COVID. There will be a scan to be completed sometime in the 2020-2021 school year. Laura Conboy will reach out to the members of this committee to help complete any relevant areas of the scan.</p>	
5. 2019-2020 Action Plan	<p>Board action plans are submitted and reviewed by SMHO on an annual basis. This year, the submission of action plans was postponed to the end of October 2020. Laura Conboy shared a snapshot of some of the items that may be included this year's action plan, which is still in development. Some of the priority areas of focus will include the development of the 2021-2024 Mental Health and Addictions Strategy, equipping & supporting students, enhancing equitable access to services, and measuring progress & impact of mental health and wellbeing initiatives.</p> <p>Nicola Dillard asked about whether or not schools would have access to The Third Path resource which was mentioned in the action plan snapshot. Laura Conboy shared that all LDSB administrators will receive a Third Path package.</p> <p>Wendy Morrison asked for a brief summary of The Third Path. Laura Conboy explained that it is framework outlined in an anchor text and eight strategy guides that focus on a relationship-based approach to student well-being and achievement.</p> <p>Kristin Fossum inquired about the evidence behind the Third Path program and wondered if LDSB would be doing their own research with this resource. Laura Conboy advised that The Third Path is not a program, but rather a Tier 1 approach to shape everyday interactions with students. Laura Conboy will further investigate the research and evidence for this framework.</p>	L.Conboy
6. Data Inventory/Strategy Development	<p>Ellyn Clost-Lambert reviewed the updated data inventory and invited all affinities to contribute any information they feel may be relevant. The proposed student survey questions initially shared with the committee in June 2020 were also reviewed, along with the feedback that members provided.</p> <p>Kristin Fossum thanked Ellyn Clost-Lambert for gathering information and incorporating member feedback. Shawn Quiqley wondered if the student survey would be for K – 12? He also reinforced the importance of using language that students would</p>	E. Clost-Lambert



	<p>understand, rather than clinical terms such as “harm reduction.” Shawn wondered how the data that we collect may be able to inform various community tables. He also wondered if the use of focus groups were being considered. Suche James suggested that we might want to host a racialized staff focus group.</p>	
<p>7. Understanding Anti-Black Racism to Support Student Mental Health and Well-being of Black and racialized students</p>	<p>Earlier this month, Laura Conboy sent committee members a document from SMHO titled “Understanding Anti-Black Racism to Support MH & Well-being of Black & Racialized Students.” Laura wondered what member’s thoughts and impressions were of the document; how members saw the committee using this document to inform our work together; and, what are the learning needs of educators, school and system leaders in understanding anti-Black racism and its impact on Black student mental health?</p> <p>Suche James stated that he liked the document and the Canadian context. He advised that the use of language needs to be a broader conversation in the Board. He enforced the need to stay consistent with the system and community, although currently there is no consensus about language. He felt that the reflection questions are excellent and will be valuable over the next few years. Suche suggested that bringing together a focus group to talk about how best we can support black youth mental health would be a good practice.</p> <p>Kristin Fossum reported that she learned a lot from the document and stated that she is appreciative of the opportunities that have been give to Educational Services staff around anti-Black and anti-Indigenous racism this year. She advised that is makes her feel proud to be a part of an organization where this is the focus.</p> <p>Cheryl Snider reported that she always thought of herself as an ally, but to action this she needs to set specific goals around this work.</p> <p>Wendy Morrison shared that this conversation is mirroring the conversation at the Moving on Mental Health table and in broader communities. It is a good sign that this is being raised throughout our community.</p> <p>Shawn Quigley stated that he received an email from a program manager asking about programming for young people at an intervention level. He wondered if there</p>	<p>All</p>



	<p>was something that KFL&A youth can attend for those who have perpetuated racism. Suche James was not aware of any such programming.</p> <p>Maureen Bartlett commented in the chat box that “We need to get moving with MH supports for black students. Some schools are moving forward with the work and are looking for these. Thinking of Suche James’ presentation to Ps/VPs re: shifting more time to supporting black student experiencing racism vs amount of time educating white aggressor.”</p> <p>Gillian Gunn echoed Maureen Bartlett’s thoughts. She reported that we need to think about the larger community. This is hard work and reflection and it takes time, but having time is a privilege. Gillian wondered how we balance what our students are going through today with the time to learn.</p> <p>Laura Conboy advised that it is her commitment to include this topic in our Mental Health Leadership Team meetings moving forward.</p>	
8. Meeting Dates	There has been an additional meeting date added this year take make up for missed meetings during the last school year. 2020-2021 meeting dates: January 14, March 25, May 13, 2021 (3:30-5 PM via Teams unless otherwise specified).	L. Conboy
9. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned.	L. Conboy