



**The Board of Education of
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)
AGENDA - STUDENT SERVICES MEETING**

November 27, 2023, 1:30 p.m.

Cranbrook Board Office

Members

Trina Ayling
Sarah Madsen
Alysha Clarke
Chris Johns

Pages

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

1.1 Call to Order

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

1.3 Approval of the Minutes

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Approval of the minutes from October 23, 2023

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Neurodiversity

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Presentation by Collette Tovee, SLP

4. REPORTS

5. NEW BUSINESS

6. ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

6.1 In-District Response Training Program for Non-Violent Crisis Intervention

7. CORRESPONDENCE

8. ADJOURNMENT

Have we effectively addressed the needs of our most vulnerable students and their families?



**The Board of Education of
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)
MINUTES - STUDENT SERVICES MEETING**

**October 23, 2023, 1:30 p.m.
Cranbrook Board Office**

Committee Members in Attendance: Co-Chair Trustee Trina Ayling
Co-Chair Trustee Sarah Madsen
Trustee Alysha Clarke
Trustee Chris Johns

Board/District Staff in Attendance: Chairperson Doug McPhee
Trustee Bev Bellina
Trustee Irene Bischler
Trustee Nicole Heckendorf
Trustee Wendy Turner
Superintendent Viveka Johnson
Secretary Treasurer Nick Taylor
Operations Manager Joe Tank
District Principal Early Learning and Child Care Laura-Lee Phillips
District Principal of Student Services Darcy Verbeurgt
Executive Assistant to Secretary Treasurer and Superintendent (recorder)
Jane Nixon

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

1.1 Call to Order

Co-Chair Trustee Madsen called the Student Services Committee meeting of October 23, 2023, to order at 1:03 p.m.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Ayling:

THAT the agenda for the Student Services Committee meeting of October 23, 2023, be approved as circulated.

1.3 Approval of the Minutes

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Clarke:

THAT the minutes of the Student Services Committee meeting of September 25, 2023, be approved as circulated.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 Speech Language Pathologist Update

District Principal Verbeurgt provided an update on the recent hiring of a Speech Language Pathologist (0.9 Full Time Equivalent position).

2.2 Special Education Historical Data Analysis

District Principal Verbeurgt reviewed the data included in the agenda package.

RECOMMENDATION A

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Ayling:

THAT the Board of Education writes a letter to review and discuss underfunding of Special Education in the District. This letter will cite examples as provided in District Principal Verbeurgt's historical data.

3. PRESENTATIONS

Nil

4. REPORTS

Nil

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 GAUGE Program Discussion

District Principal Verbeurgt provided a brief history of the GAUGE Program.

Discussion included:

- Blended programs
- Existing programs
- Alternate programs
- Impact of threat violence reporting

- Social Emotional Learning programs
- Lack of support in classrooms and in schools
- Trauma Informed Schools
- Inclusive spaces

RECOMMENDATION B

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Ayling:

THAT the Board of Education researches the feasibility of creating a GAUGE (or similar) alternate program across the District.

6. ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

6.1 In-District Response Training Program for Non-Violent Crisis Intervention

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

8. ADJOURNMENT

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Clark:

THAT the October 23, 2023, Student Services Committee meeting adjourn at 2:12 p.m.

Have we effectively addressed the needs of our most vulnerable students and their families?

NEURODIVERSITY

DEFINITION & SIMPLE STRATEGIES

COLLETTE TOVEE, SLP



1

OUTCOMES & OBJECTIVES

Today we are going to talk neurodiversity and focus on three elements to expand our understanding of neurodiversity.

What is
Neurodiversity?

Why
Changes in
Attitudes?

Simple
Strategies for
the
Classroom

2

WHAT IS NEURODIVERSITY?

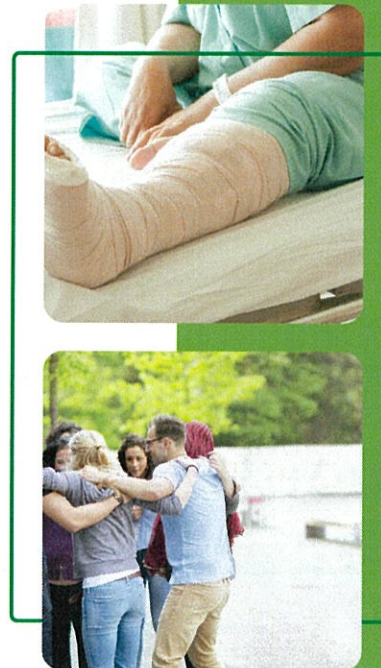
It's a very broad term which states that some people's brains are built differently and may need different supports than our neurotypical students.



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WHY THE SHIFT?

Historically, we have used a medical model to look at and treat neurodiverse people. In recent years, we are now using more of a social model to support neurodiverse people.



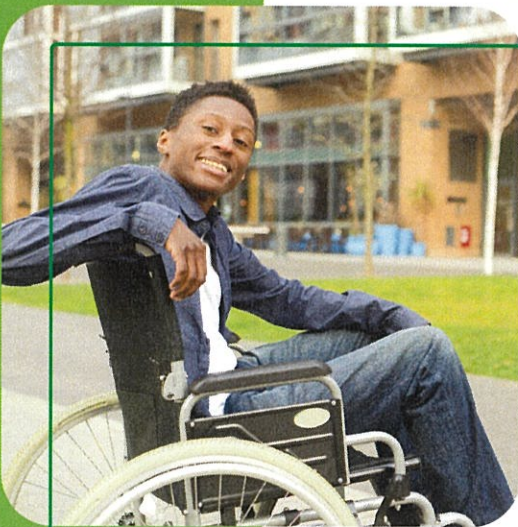
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THE MEDICAL MODEL

Something is wrong with you
and we're going to try and fix
it.

5



THE SOCIAL MODEL

Looks more at society and how
society is not accommodating of
differences. It looks to change the
environment and societal attitudes
to support people with differences.

6

WHAT COULD THIS LOOK LIKE IN **SCHOOLS** ?

Changing attitudes towards
Autistic students and how we
support them.



7



WHAT COULD THIS LOOK LIKE IN **SCHOOL?**

Think about Dr. Shelly Moore's
teaching and the ideas of
Universal Design for Learning.

8

STRATEGIES

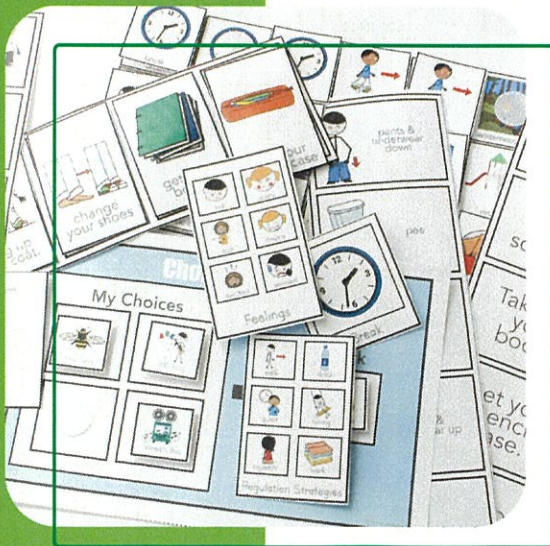
TEACH NEUROTYPICAL STUDENTS ABOUT AUTISM

Spend time teaching neurotypical students about autism and how to get along with their autistic peers.



9

STRATEGIES USE VISUALS



Autistic students may need visuals to help organize their day. They may also benefit from pictures for learning new information/vocabulary.

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STRATEGIES ENCORPORATE INTERESTS & STRENGTHS

Use what the student is good at to build skills in other areas.

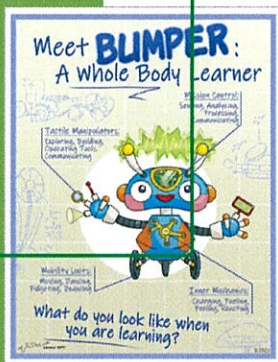
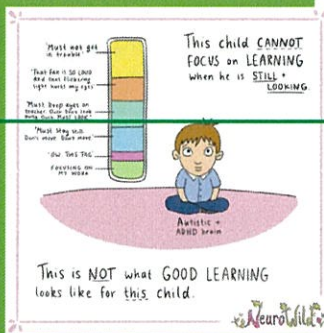


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STRATEGIES LISTENING CAN LOOK DIFFERENT

For some children, listening can look different. For example, some children pay attention better when they are moving.

Social Thinking has recently changed their whole body listening poster to reflect this.



12

STRATEGIES TEACHING ADVOCACY SKILLS

Teach children to advocate for their needs. E.g., "I don't like loud noises, I need headphones."



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SOME PEOPLE TO FOLLOW

Here are some people to follow that provide good information.

**Autism
Level Up**

**Cari
Ebert**

Neurowild

Thanks! If you have more questions feel free to contact me
collette.tovee@sd5.bc.ca

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