Committees

November 2016

What is the name of the committee?

NSS Learning Disability (LD) Advisory Committee

What is the purpose of the committee?

* Advocate for ALL students designated with Learning Disabilities (LDs) regardless of whether they are in the Gifted, Regular or Core streams
* Provide support for students with LDs
* Provide support to parents of students with LDs
* Provide support to teachers of students with LDs

What are the responsibilities and limitations?  **NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED YEARLY**

* new committee; in the process of establishing/determining what needs to be achieved and what obstacles need to be addressed

What are the specific tasks? **NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED YEARLY**

* To be determined but suspect this will be a changing target as more issues become known

When should the job be completed and what type of report is expected?

* Will be determined by the magnitude of the projects undertaken
  + Currently will aim to accomplish 2 – 3 “doable” mini projects/academic year
  + Foresee an overarching problem that needs to be addressed and will likely take longer than one academic year
* No formal report structure has been implemented to date
  + Suggest keeping minutes of meetings to establish and ensure some form of continuity between school years

What is the role of members and how is the membership decided?

* Members will determine how best we as a group can help the students
  + Consultation with teachers and students as needed
* Membership is currently open to anyone who is interested in participating; may change down the road

Is there a budget? **NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED YEARLY**

* Would like to request from School Council a starting budget of $600 – 700 per year
  + inviting speakers (for both parents and students), getting supports in place for students, arranging workshops
* As the committee grows, we foresee this changing
  + More interest will spawn more initiatives

What is the term of office for members? Methods of filling vacancies?

* currently, no formal mechanisms are in place
  + suggest (but not mandated) chair of committee should have at least one year of experience on committee
* membership is open to all parents/teachers with an interest in determining best practices for supporting students with LDs.
* As committee increases in size, a need will arise to establish a need for specific roles; currently everything is voluntary

What is the authority of the committee?

* Committee would be responsible for dealing with issues affecting ALL students with LDs
  + Interact with other committees to enhance cross committee nitiatives (ie. wellness)
* Would like to have a formal mechanism in place for ensuring concerns are brought forward to /addressed by appropriate authorities

What resources are needed?

* Finances
* Parental involvement
* Student involvement
* Teacher involvement (to a lesser extent)
* Potentially space (meetings, events)
* Perhaps a website (down the road)

What resources are already available? **NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED YEARLY**

* In the stages of assessing this.

**ADDENDUM**: Many issues that this committee would like to address are policy / resource specific. It would be helpful to have a copy of the governance / reporting structure specific to NSS as well as to the TDSB so that proper procedure is followed.