



MINUTES

Mental Health & Substance Use Leadership Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 23, 2025

3:30-5:00 PM

Microsoft Teams

Chair: Laura Conboy

Recorder: Wendy Fisher

Attendees: Laura Conboy, Wendy Fisher, Ellyn Clost-Lambert, Chelsie Boucher, Shawn Quigley, Amanda Posadowski, Scot Gillam, Shona Ribbel, Cheryl Snider, Rae McDonald, Adam Andrezyk, Kristy Luffman, Dr. Megan Brunet, Gillian Gunn, Terry Day, Valerie Arsenault, Laura Gillam (Guest) Johnathon (Guest, student with Shawn Quigley)

Regrets: Melissa West, Maggie Farmer

Agenda Items	Discussion/Decisions	MRP
1. Welcome / Land Acknowledgement	Member introductions completed. Welcome to Chelsie Boucher, Student Support Counsellor, who is succeeding Leah Carey. Shona Ribbel will be representing the Adolescent Care Worker affinity today, in place of Maggie Farmer. Additionally, we have Johnathon, a placement student working with Shawn Quigley, joining us. We continue to amplify the voices of Indigenous Peoples as part of our ongoing commitment to Truth and Reconciliation. Laura Conboy highlighted Isabella Kulak from the Cote First Nations in Saskatchewan. Isabella was shamed for wearing a traditional ribbon skirt on “formal day” at her school. National Ribbon Skirt Day now takes place on January 4th of each year.	L. Conboy
2. Approval of Agenda	Motion to approve the agenda by Rae MacDonald. Motion seconded by Valerie Arsenault.	All
3. Approval of Minutes	Motion to approve the minutes by Gillian Gunn. Motion seconded by Adam Andrezyk.	All

4. Student Census 2025 Consultation	Ellyn Clost-Lambert provided the committee with information about the upcoming Student Census. Ellyn and Laura Gillam are meeting with various groups to build a shared understanding of the purpose of the Student Census and gather feedback about the design, survey questions and implementation. Ellyn and Laura G facilitated a discussion concerning Census questions related to mental health and/or substance use. The Committee discussed whether to include a question on issues affecting well-being, as similar questions are already included in the School Climate Surveys, which are anonymous and offer more protection to students. The goal of the previous Census question on issues affecting well-being was to understand what issues were affecting students in the areas of mental health and substance use. The committee is considering whether there is a need for this specific information to be tied to achievement-related data. Committee members also reviewed the wording of questions related to disabilities and discussed the importance of ensuring language is appropriate for different grade levels. The committee's suggestions were noted and have been included as question options to be taken to other groups for consultation. Ellyn and Laura G will return to the May committee meeting to finalize the questions. Lastly, the Committee discussed the re-wording of attendance-related questions and considered the inclusion of justice-related questions.	E. Clost-Lambert / L. Gilliam / All
5. Community Partner Updates	Shawn Quigley reported that as of April 2024, there have been 94 new referrals to Kairos. A summary of the Global Appraisal of Individual Needs – Short Screener (GAIN-SS) assessment and survey results has been created, highlighting the frequency of specific substances identified. There is an observed increase in substance use among caregivers. A reduction in opioid use among youth has been noted, attributed to the increased difficulty in accessing prescription medication. Youth Diversion is in the process of hiring an individual with expertise in process addiction.	S. Quigley / T. Day / A. Posadowski

	Terry Day reported that every student applying for the Nexus classrooms will complete a GAIN-SS through Maltby, as a way of ensuring that they are a good fit for the program. A waitlist for ongoing services at Maltby still exists; however, families can use the walk-in clinics as needed. Schools can now make referrals online through the Maltby website. Respite services for children and youth with autism are overseen by Micheal Whitman. The hiring process is currently underway. No update from Amanda Posadowski, on behalf of Public Health.	
6. Operational Plan Sharing with Trustees	Item is deferred to next meeting due to time constraints.	L. Conboy/ M. West
7. Right Time, Right Care Update	Item is deferred to next meeting due to time constraints.	L. Conboy
8. 2025-2028 MHSUA Strategy Discussion	Laura provided an overview of the 2025-2028 Mental Health, Substance Use, and Addiction (MHSUA) Strategy. One of her goals is to connect the MHSUA Strategy to other plans/strategies existing in Limestone. A draft version of the Strategy was previewed by Committee Members. The audience for this document includes students, staff, Trustees, and community partners. Feedback was provided from various Committee members. Another draft will be shared at the March 2025 meeting.	L. Conboy / All
9. Prepare/Prevent/Respond	Item is deferred to next meeting due to time constraints.	L. Conboy
10. Adjournment	Laura adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will occur on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 3:30 PM on MS Teams.	L. Conboy