

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday, June 13, 2016
7:00 p.m. – Board Room
Catholic Education Centre**

Members/ Alternates Present: L. Cipparrone (Chair), L. Currie, D. Hotopeleanu, A. Iantomasi, H. Karabela,
D. Rabenda (Vice Chair), C. Parreira, R. Quesnel, L. Stephenson, S. Trites

Staff Present: B. Browne, Superintendent of Special Education Services
S. Miller, Special Education Coordinator
Special Education Consultants: A. Bator; C. Bauman; V. Goodwin-Duncan; K. McCarthy; M. Pickett;
W. Reid-Purcell,
O. Foese, Chief of Psychology Services
D. Kollee, Clinical Practice Leader, Speech-Language Pathology
D. Kattlus, Manager, Educational Assistants
P. Codner, Chief Social Worker
P. Webber-Callaghan, Mental Health Leader

Members Absent:

Members Excused: B. Agnew, M. Lourenco, J. Rowles

Recorder: J. Crew

1. Call to Order

1.1 Opening Prayer

L. Cipparrone

The meeting began with a prayer at 7:00 pm.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by: A. Iantomasi

Seconded by: R. Quesnel

THAT, the agenda be approved as submitted.

CARRIED

2. Presentations

2.1 The Year in Review

Special Education Staff

B. Browne updated members on staff placements for the Special Education Coordinator and Special Education Consultants and introduced staff members.

The Chair, on behalf of SEAC, thanked the current Special Education Coordinator for her many contributions and welcomed the new Coordinator and Special Education Consultant.

The 'year in review' updates included:

- Kaufman Test of Educational Achievement, Third Edition (KTEA); tool for assessing academic achievement
- FASD: training, capacity building and collaboration with other agencies; and Halton's Community of Practise model
- Inter-board Gifted Network: Itinerant SERT and Special Education Gifted Class Teacher participate and share information with school based SERTs
- Empower Reading Program

- Special Needs Strategy: Coordinated Service Planning
- Building independence: the EA allocation process and independence rubric
- PowerPoint presentation for Earth Day created by Structured Teaching Class students working with mentors in the Gifted Class
- Educational Assistants professional development
- Educational Assistant recruitment and training of new EAs
- Speech and Language: SLP and CDA increasing skill sets, professional development; program development; case load management; collaborative skills and allocation rubric to guide caseload management
- SLP – ESL Collaboration
- Selective Mutism Pilot Project
- *Stay, Play and Talk* Peer Mediated Social Skills Program for children with ASD and other social communication difficulties
- Special Needs Strategy – Integrated Rehabilitation Services
- CYCs and Social Workers: referrals numbers; staffing for 2016-2017; 'Everyday Matters' attendance awareness; attendance process and Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) process; handout for parents; and tiered model of intervention
- Mental Health: goals to develop common language; *Talk. Learn. Support*; highlighted areas included: Roots of Empathy, First Nations Education, learning how to move forward, School Mental Health ASIST, Mental Health team; and the anxiety model
- Video on Cameron Helps Mother's Day run, 350 participated this year

The Chair requested that updates be brought back to SEAC on the Special Needs Strategy in the Fall.

B. Browne highlighted many happenings and thanked SEAC for their support.

3. Actions to be taken

3.1 Approval of Minutes – May 30, 2016 SEAC Meeting

RECOMMENDATION	Moved by: L. Stephenson
	Seconded by: D. Hotopoleanu
THAT, the minutes for the SEAC meeting be approved as submitted.	CARRIED

4. Business Arising from Previous Meetings

4.1 Review Chart of Outstanding Items from Previous Meetings

Business arising items from previous meetings were reviewed; planning for the next webinar will begin in September; Soundbytes were discussed under item 5.4.

5. Action Items

5.1 Budget Priorities

L. Cipparrone

Several priority areas were identified including: early intervention; mental health; technology, EA training on students' technology. SEA funding was explained. Budgeting challenges both for the Board and across the province were discussed, concerns included: closing of provincial schools; the change from CCAC to ErinoakKids; and the Integrated Rehab and Service Coordination rollouts. The Chair requested that if information comes out in the summer that might assist parents, it be shared as soon as possible. It was noted that boards continue to be asked to do more with less and that changes do not necessarily result in funding for increased responsibilities.

SEAC members determined they would advocate to the Ministry by writing a letter regarding the influx of needs and voice concerns around all the additional pressures; the letter will be copied to other SEACs in Ontario. It was pointed out that in the bigger picture, PAAC on SEAC and others Boards are advocating also, and this would be a

move toward becoming part of a collective voice.

A subcommittee will work over the summer to draft a letter; the subcommittee will consist of L. Cipparrone, R. Quesnel, L. Stephenson and L. Currie. Timelines to get the letter out with other boards were discussed. R. Quesnel will provide some sample letters. B. Browne noted that this is congruent with what the Board of Trustees will also be doing.

5.2 Special Education Plan (SEP - pages 56 to 70)

L. Cipparrone

The process for the SEP review in alternate years was clarified: SEP is an ongoing item; members can always request changes and ask questions; questions to be addressed at a specific SEAC meeting are requested in advance. The SEP will also be added as an agenda item mid-year. There were no further questions; minor corrections for pages 56 to 70 were identified.

5.3 September Meeting/Calendar Topics 2016-17

L. Cipparrone

September timelines: a list of proposed calendar items will be drafted for September, beginning with stationary items (items required in certain months). Determination of SEAC goals, timing and topics for the next webinar, additional topics of interest and timing for future agenda items will be discussed. Members have an open invitation to present on their behalf associations and the work that they do. The timeline chart will be fluid. Samples of previous agenda topics were provided.

Suggestions for future topics include:

- SLP implementations
- Mental Health Updates
- Differentiate Instruction
- Coordinated Service/ Integrated Rehab
- Independence Rubric

Members are invited to submit other suggestions throughout the summer to the Chair. It was noted that as any critical issues come up throughout the year (i.e. ministry initiatives) they will be added.

5.4 SEAC Soundbytes

L. Cipparrone

The 2016-2017 SEAC Soundbytes have not yet been drafted; it was determined that the original introductory Soundbyte would be distributed for the September school newsletters.

6. Communications to SEAC

6.1 Superintendent's Report

Updates on the following were provided:

- Provincial Mental Health – equity, wellness
- Gifted classes, based on numbers, Oakville will have 3 classrooms for next year
- Summer camp cannot be offered moving forward; difficulties from an equity prospective; camp has never been funded
- Torch Run - pictures were shared
- Special Olympics Track Meet– pictures were shared

A very impressive article on behaviour modification: *'Decreasing Stereotypy Using NCR and DRO with Functionally Matched Stimulation: Effects on Targeted and Non-Targeted Stereotypy'* has been published by one HCDSB's Behaviour Therapists; B. Browne will share the article via email.

B. Browne concluded by publicly acknowledging staff for all their great work. L. Cipparrone thank B. Browne for his leadership.

6.2 Association Reports

6.3 Trustee Reports

Trustees updated members on current Board meetings and events.

6.4 Sub-Committee Update

The sub-committee has not met; the 'What is SEAC' Soundbyte will be sent out for September. Members are asked to submit topic ideas and feedback as well as suggestions for the next webinar; it was noted that a suggestion for the next webinar to be longer had been received.

6.5 Reports from Other Shareholder Meetings

7. Information Items

8. Questions from the Public

None received.

9. SEAC Discussion/Question Period

Some changes to the agenda will be implemented beginning in September, meeting protocols will be reviewed and a document will be drafted to ensure everyone is treated fairly.

10. Next Meeting will be Monday, September 26, 2016

Members were reminded to submit topics of interest they would like to see included in the 2016-2017 calendar of events.

11. Adjournment

11.1 Motion for Absenteeism

RECOMMENDATION	Moved by: A. Iantomasi Seconded by: C. Parreira
THAT, B. Agnew, M. Lourenco, J. Rowles be excused.	
CARRIED	

11.2 Motion for Adjournment

RECOMMENDATION	Moved by: R. Quesnel Seconded by: C. Parreira
THAT, the meeting adjourn.	
CARRIED	

11.3 Closing Prayer

The meeting closed with a prayer at 10:01 pm.