

- Mandatory trialing of Assistive Technology (AT) Equipment: A trial package is now available to download in the SEA One Note binder and an inventory of equipment is available to complete trials.
- SEA OneNote Binder and SEA Forms: SEA related information in one place in a OneNote binder; SEA forms have been revised and updated to reflect current HCDSB practices
- Professional development: a timeline of the profession development proved for staff on updates and changes was outlined
- AT Training for Students – LEARNStyle: Students receiving technology to access curriculum will be receiving up to 300 minutes of on-site AT training when they receive a SEA device. Student training can be done individually, in small groups or as whole class, including non-SEA students for the purpose of inclusiveness and normalization around the use of AT. Training will be offered to staff and parents who would like to attend.
- *Texthelp Read & Write Gold*: is a literacy support program designed to assist computer users with difficulty reading and/or writing. Read & Write Gold opens as a tool bar that can be used in combination with standard programs already installed on your computer. Read and Write has been made available to all students for the purpose of achieving inclusiveness in the schools
- New Equipment: Working collaboratively with the IT department to ensure students are receiving current models of laptops and iPads. Laptops are delivered with a SEA image that has been developed to support student learning and includes a variety of tools and software
- iPad APPS: are available on iPad in an App Catalogue. Currently in process of update a variety of apps in collaboration with IT and HCDSB Privacy Officer
- SEA Claims-based Equipment: currently updating storage room inventory; equipment has been reviewed by Motion Specialties for functionality and safety; obsolete equipment is being donated or disposed. An updated inventory of equipment is being made available to all SERTs to share with OT and PT staff for the purpose of re-using equipment. Remaining inventory is being cleaned and maintained.

J. Thompson and A. Bator concluded by sharing some feedback they have been receiving on the changes to the SEA process.

A revised draft of the SEA brochure was distributed. Once the brochure is reviewed and finalized, it will be emailed to SEAC and updated in Special Education Plan, appendix G.

2.2 Special Needs Strategy – Integrated Rehab Update (D. Kollee)

B. Agnew introduced D. Kollee Clinical Practice Leader, Speech-Language Pathology and *Co-Chair of the Halton Operational Leadership Committee for Integrated Delivery of Rehabilitation Services*.

D. Kollee explained that the Special Needs Strategy (SNS) consists of three initiatives: Developmental Screening; Co-ordinated Service Planning and Integrated Delivery of Rehabilitation Services. Four ministries are involved: Ministry of Child and Youth Services; Ministry of Community and Social Services; Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Ministry of Education.

D. Kollee outlined the four aspirational goals of the SNS; reviewed the path to date, the governance model for Halton; and summarized Halton's Proposed Plan and the organizations participating in service delivery in Halton. Changes that impact the final proposals were reviewed and next steps for the strategy were discussed.

3. Actions to be taken

3.1 Minutes of the March 27, 2017 SEAC Meeting

Moved by: M. Lourenco

Seconded by: D. Hotopeleanu

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the March 27, 2017 SEAC Meeting be approved as presented.

The Chair called for a vote and the motion **CARRIED**.

4. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

5. **Business Arising from Previous Meetings**

5.1 **Summary of Outstanding Items from Previous Meetings**

- PAAQ on SEAC presentation has had scheduling challenges, this item will be discussed further. There are a number of agenda presentation items outstanding, will continue to keep items on the list, may not get to all on the list prior to the summer
- SEAC Soundbytes: the subcommittee will work to get Soundbytes completed, including the Soundbyte for September
- Budget priority letter: timing to be determined

6. **Action and Information Items**

6.1 **Meeting Dates 2017-2018**

The proposed meeting dates for 2017-2018 were put forth.

Moved by: M. Lourenco

Seconded by: L. Stephenson

RESOLVED, that the Halton Catholic District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) accept the 2017-2018 meeting dates as submitted. **CARRIED**

7. **Communications to SEAC**

7.1 **Superintendent's Report**

B. Browne provided a Superintendent Report for distribution; members were asked to review and submit any questions they might have. Updates included:

- **Gifted Parent Information Night** took place Wednesday March 29th at Corpus Christi Secondary School in Burlington. Maria joined the presentation on behalf of ABC and SEAC
- **The Learning Disability Association of Halton (LDAH) Conference** took place on March 26th. HCDSB continues to partner with LDAH in support of their annual conference with staff to participation and support with AV and technology.
- **Budget: Collective Agreement Extensions:** as part of the extension of all collective agreements, the government announced financial commitments to increase staff through CUPE, APSSP, and OECTA. This will translate to more Educational Assistants, an additional Speech and Language Pathologist from APSSP, and an increase of SERT support throughout the system, including an additional Deaf/Hard of Hearing teacher. Currently exploring the potential staffing of further elementary "CHANGE" sites in Burlington and Oakville to support student mental health and anxiety. The OECTA commitments are yet to be officially approved.
- **Regular Budget Process:** currently advocating through the regular budget process to increase our funding and support for the Empower Reading program in our schools.
- **ABA For All:** Day 2 of this professional development initiative will be wrapping up this week; great feedback has been received.
- **Student Awards of Excellence** were held on Monday evening at Jean Vanier. The two deserving SEAC Spirit of Inclusion Award winners were presented with their individual awards.

- **Catholic Education Week** takes place April 30th to May 5th, special events and celebrations are happening throughout the system in celebration of Catholic Education.
- **LifeSkills Semi-Formal Dinner Dance** will be hosted at Jean Vanier on Thursday May 18th. All SEAC members are invited to attend any/all of this special evening. Please let us know if you can join in.
- **Team UnBreakable (Formerly “Cameron Helps”) Mother’s Day Run** takes place on Saturday, May 13th. This run continues to grow every year with more schools participating in the run and more clubs intentionally doing so in schools to connect mental health and well-being with running and physical fitness.
- **Halton Police Annual Torch Run and Regional Special Olympics Track and Field** both events will take place on Friday June 9th. For students in grades 5 to 8 involved in the Special Olympics event, the track will shut down mid-day and host a ceremonial walk around the track in acknowledgement and solidarity with the Annual Torch Run.

7.2 Association Reports

7.3 Trustee Reports

A. Iantomasi provided updates on board happenings. The on-line Town Hall meeting on April 25th was discussed. Positive feedback on the session was provided by members.

7.4 Sub-Committee Report

7.5 Reports from Other Stakeholder Meetings

7.5.1 French Ad Hoc Committee Meetings (B. Agnew)

The French Ad Hoc Committee report was deferred to the May SEAC meeting to allow for a more constructive update. B. Agnew informed members that she would be happy put forth to the committee any questions or concerns that members might have.

8. Questions from the Public

9. SEAC Discussion

10. Next Agenda: Meeting Monday, May 29, 2017

The agenda will include the budget presentation and a review of the Board’s accessibility plan. B. Agnew represents SEAC on the Accessibility Review Committee.

11. Adjournment

11.1 Resolution re Absentees

Moved by: M. Lourenco

Seconded by: H. Karabela

RESOLVED, that A. Iantomasi, L. Cipparrone, D. Rabenda, R. Quesnel be excused. **CARRIED**

11.2 Adjournment and Closing Prayer (D. Agnew)

Moved by: D. Hotopeleanu

Seconded by: J. Parisi

RESOLVED, that the meeting adjourn. **CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned 8:40 p.m. with a prayer led by B. Agnew.

