

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: November 25, 2019  
Time: 7:00 pm  
Location: Catholic Education Centre - Board Room  
802 Drury Lane  
Burlington, Ontario

Members Present	B. Agnew	A. Louca-Ricci
	M. Arteaga	M. Lourenco
	D. Bardon	P. Moran
	R. Barreiro	R. Quesnel
	T. Beattie	D. Rabenda
	M. Duarte	T. Veale
	D. Hotopeleanu (Vice Chair)	

Staff Present

C. Cipriano, Superintendent of Special Education Services  
A. Jones, Educational Assistant Manager  
D. Kollee, Chief Speech Language Pathologist  
W. Reid-Purcell, Special Education Coordinator  
J. Thompson, Special Education Consultant & SEA Lead

Members Excused

H. Karabela  
J. Lim  
Y. Taylor

Members Absent

N. Guzzo  
C. Parreira

Recording Secretary

A. Hughes

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### 1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order.

#### 1.1

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with a prayer led by the Chair.

#### 1.2 Approval of Agenda

**Moved by:** D. Rabenda

**Seconded by:** M. Duarte

**RESOLVED**, that the agenda be accepted as received.

**CARRIED**

### 2. Presentations

#### 2.1 Special Equipment Amount (SEA) Update (J. Thompson)

J. Thompson, Special Education Consultant and SEA Lead provided an update and details on the Special Equipment Amount (SEA).

### 3. Actions to be taken

#### 3.1 Minutes of the October 28, 2019 SEAC Meeting

**Moved by:** D. Hotopeleanu

**Seconded by:** M. Duarte

**RESOLVED**, that the minutes of the October 28, 2019 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

### 6. Action and Information Items

#### 6.1 SEAC Goals/Topics

B. Agnew presented the logo for the new SEAC twitter account @hcdsbSEAC. Members were encouraged to share association information with the Communications Subcommittee that they would like to have posted on the twitter page. A link to an excel document will also be shared with members so they can populate it with association content to be added to the account.

B. Agnew asked members for ideas for a topic for a SEAC event. Once the topic is decided a speaker will be confirmed. One of the goals of the event is to increase parent awareness and engagement. It was agreed that the event should take place in the spring.

B. Agnew reviewed the SEAC agenda topics for the year and members provided suggestions on other ideas. The agenda will be updated and sent out to members.

#### 6.2 PAaC on SEAC SURVEY

B. Agnew encouraged members to complete the Provincial Parent Associations Advisory Committee on Special Education Advisory Committees (PAaC on SEAC) survey that was emailed to members.

#### 6.3 Spirit of Inclusion Update & Sub-Committee

B. Agnew reviewed the Spirit of Inclusion Award process with members and asked for volunteers to be on the Subcommittee that selects recipients.

W. Reid Purcell provided some information on including the Alternative Learning Program at the Thomas Merton Center. Members agreed to have a third Spirit of Inclusion Award category for the Alternative Learning Program. C. Cipriano explained the programs offered at the Thomas Merton Center and offered members a tour of the center.

#### 6.4 SEAC Evaluation (Stop/Start/Continue) Extension

C. Cipriano distributed SEAC meeting evaluation forms to those members absent at the October 28<sup>th</sup> SEAC meeting and invited them to complete and submit the evaluation form. Time was allotted at the end of the meeting to complete the forms.

## **7. Communications to SEAC**

### **7.1 Superintendent's Report**

C. Cipriano provided updates on:

Mary Mother of God Parish in Oakville: A further memo was released by the Religion Curriculum Consultant informing all Elementary and Secondary Vice Principals and Principles of the Sensory Friendly Masses being held at Mary Mother of God Parish and to share the information with staff and community.

Mental Health Presentation Follow Up: A pamphlet was designed for students by the Mental Health Advisory and Steering committee. The working group will determine how these pamphlets will be utilized and distributed. The launch of the Suicide Prevention/Intervention/Postvention Protocol will be in April. Sharing with teachers will rollout according to school needs and how the administrator and team feel is best for their school community.

Educational Assistant Survey: On Friday November 22, 2019 all Educational Assistants were invited to complete a Board survey as part of their Professional Development Day agenda. The goal of the survey was to garner an understanding of the work climate for our EA staff and frame next steps related to wellness, satisfaction and sustainability.

Thomas Merton Center: Updates were provided on post secondary graduates and information was shared on College and University acceptances.

Empower Reading: A refresher training session was held on November 4<sup>th</sup> for all teachers currently running Empower Reading.

Special Incidence Portions (SIP) Claims: The submission process has begun.

Gifted Screening Process: The gifted screening process began in November.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD): a FASD Catholic Learning Community (CLC) was held on November 22<sup>nd</sup> for I-Teams and Special Education Consultants to collaborate and build our FASD Framework.

SERT Meetings: The focus was on the Kindergarten Program and the Gifted Learner.

Special Education Department Head Meeting: The emphasis was on several Special Education issues and the Gifted Learner.

Ontario Council of Administrators of Special Education (OCASE) Conference: C. Cipriano and several Special Education Consultants attended. The day focused on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The Ministry of Education was in attendance seeking feedback about Board's successes and challenges with ASD. HCDSB shared their ABA for All work.

The Ontario Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (OSLA) Symposium: Speech Language Pathologist staff attended the day on Autism, FASD training and Selective Mutism PD.

Breaking Barriers Conference: D. Kollee, Chief of Speech Language Pathologist presented on behalf of the Halton FASD Resource Team to caregivers of individuals with FASD.

Collaborative Learning Community: was held on November 1<sup>st</sup> for Special Education Staff on building the interprofessional competencies with a focus on team functioning and teaming to support students in our schools.

Secondary Principals Meeting: P. Codner, Chief Social Worker presented on November 21st on School Social Work Framework.

Life Skills Christmas Dance: takes place on Thursday December 12<sup>th</sup> at St. Ignatius of Loyola from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. All SEAC are invited and welcome to attend.

SEAC Christmas Social: C. Cipriano extended an invitation to members to attend after the December 16<sup>th</sup> SEAC meeting.

## **7.2 Trustee Reports**

M. Duarte reported on:

- Staff made a presentation to the Board on November 5<sup>th</sup> on Human Rights and Equity and the effort done in our school system.
- Several presentations were made to the Board regarding French Programs. Trustees have requested staff to bring back a strategy to eliminate the existing wait list for September 2020.
- Policy II-19 Educational Field Trips was reviewed at the November 12<sup>th</sup> Policy meeting.

## **8. Next Agenda: Meeting Monday, December 16, 2019**

## **9. Adjournment**

### **9.1 Resolution re Absentees (Chair)**

**Moved by:** M. Lourenco

**Seconded by:** D. Bardon

**RESOLVED**, that N. Guzzo, H. Karabela, J. Lim, Y. Taylor be excused.

**CARRIED**

### **9.2 Adjournment and Closing Prayer (Chair)**

**Moved by:** M. Lourenco

**Seconded by:** R. Barreiro

**RESOLVED**, that the meeting adjourn.

**CARRIED**

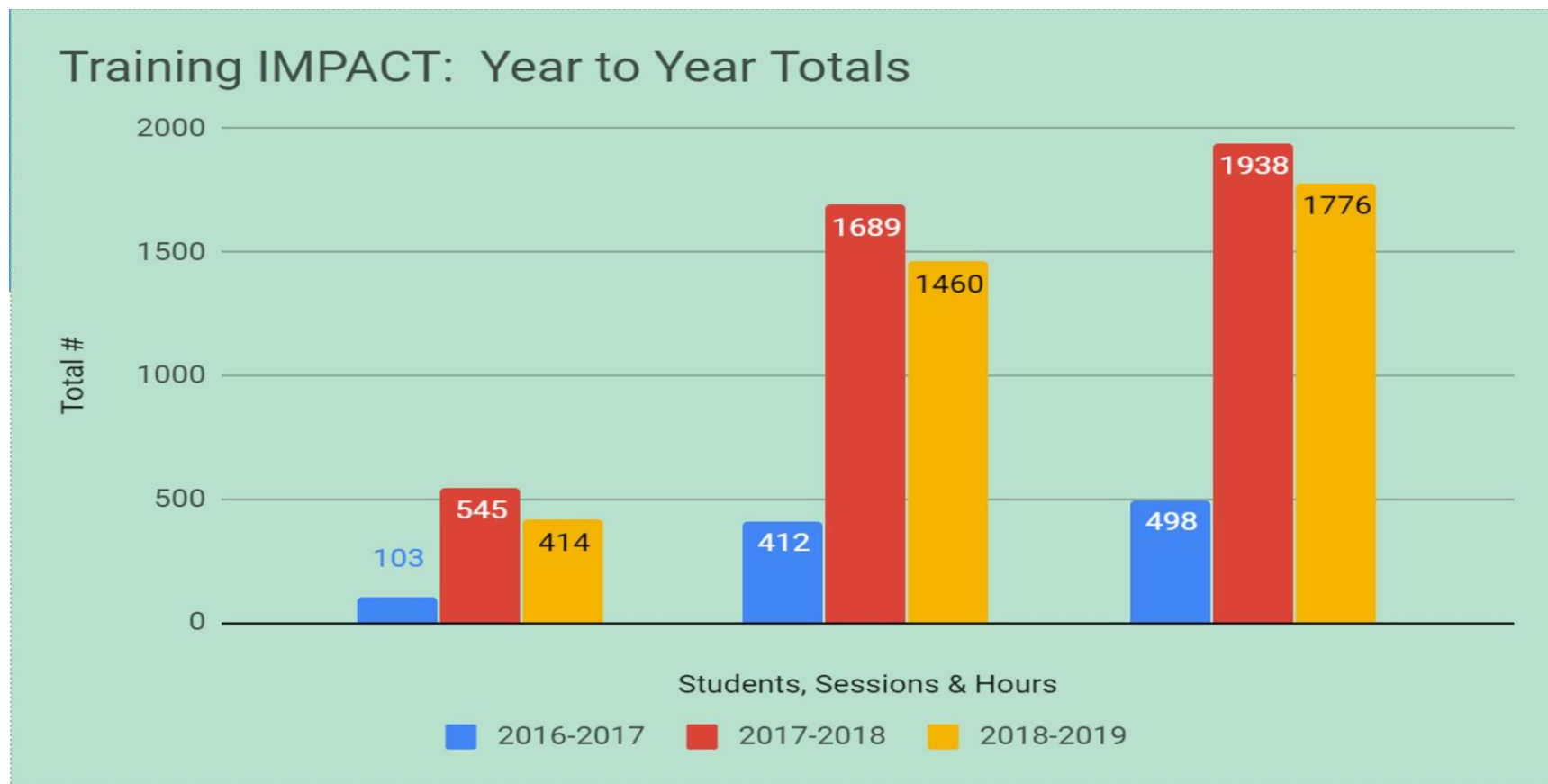
The meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m. with a prayer led by the Chair.



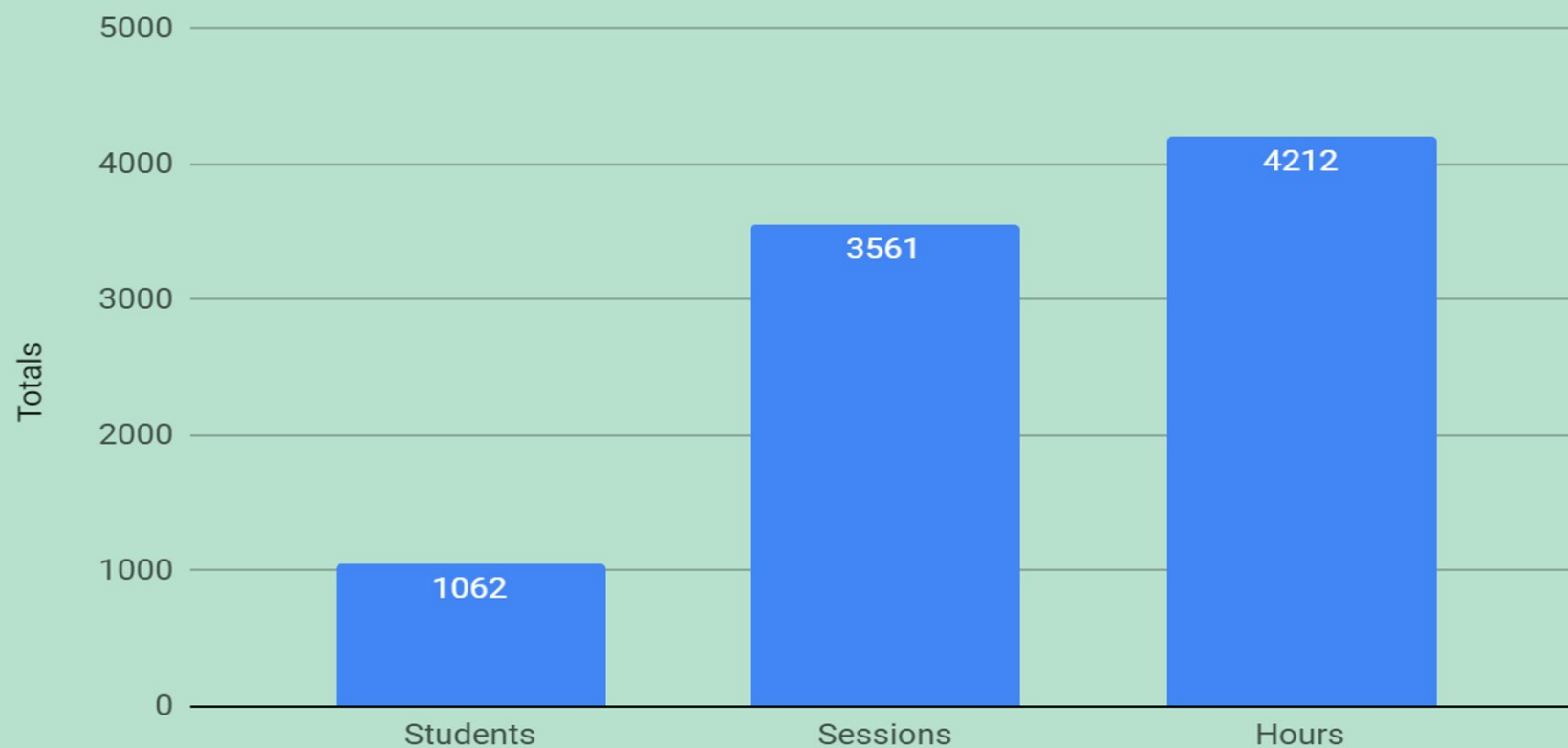
# SEA Update November 2019

Jen Thompson  
SEA Consultant

# Over the Years!



## Training PARTNERSHIP: Total #s



# Teacher Training

## **Structured Teaching, Community Living and Life Skills Teachers**

- In year 2 of teacher training support model
- Includes choice based on teacher need

## **Essential Skills Teachers**

- NEW to teacher training this year – shift focused from student training to teacher/student training

## **GLE Class Training**

- NEW – whole class Gr. 9 GLE training with teacher participation (4 or 8 sessions)



# Lego Robotics



## Gifted Classrooms

Coding/Robotics is being introduced into these classrooms to meet teachers/students where they are at

Teachers – will receive introduction training in January

Students/teachers – will welcome LEARNStyle into their classrooms in January to facilitate robotics training

# Blind/Low Vision

## Itinerant BLV training

NEW – teacher and teacher/student training on technology for students with BLV needs (ie. Braille etc.)

Goal – to support our Itinerant BLV teachers to better support or BLV students with new technology and transition training



# eLite and SEAIT integration

**May 2019** – rolled out a new IEP Writer (updated version to our current IEP Engine)

**October 2019** – rolled out Meeting Management Module (IPRC)

**November 2019** – integrated new IEP Writer with SEAIT

## WHY?

System Update

Trillium integration – accurate reporting



# Mobility Storage Rooms

## Summer Move!

Over the summer our SEA Mobility equipment was moved into classrooms at St. John Oakville

Inventory is updated and equipment is being cleaned regularly for re-use

OT/PT's now have a live link to our SEA Storage inventory so our own equipment can be trialled and prescribed to our students



# HCDSB Guidelines

With the release of new Ministry Guidelines late in the 2018-19 school year, and with many new updates to our own board policies and procedures – new HCDSB Guidelines were released in October 2019

## Ministry Guidelines

Ministry of Education updated their funding and guidelines for SEA on an annual basis

NEW

removal of requirement for professional recommendation for SEA AT claims

Technology still needs to be considered essential to meet ministry requirements

Boards are required to have their own policy to determine eligibility

# Track B

## HCDSB Response to new Ministry Guidelines

1. Honour current professional recommendations for AT equipment
2. Implement a Track B to determine eligibility
  - After Tier 1 strategies have been implemented, and with consultant approval, a SERT may conduct a K-TEA (with parental permission)
  - Results of the KTEA (Reading and Writing) may be submitted through a secure portal for review
  - SEA Consultant and/or Itinerant (in consultation with Chief of Psychology) can approve/deny request for SEA based upon the results
  - Letter of recommendations is provided to the SERT through the secure portal

# HCDSB in the Community

Have become leaders in SEA in Ontario

SEA Consultant attends/facilitates SEA network meetings 2x annually to collaborate with other boards in the GTA and London boards

Jen and Anita – are on the ASET Board of Directors – organize an annual ASET Conference held in Niagara Falls

Regularly meet with neighbouring boards to share best practices (HDSB, Peel, Toronto, Niagara)

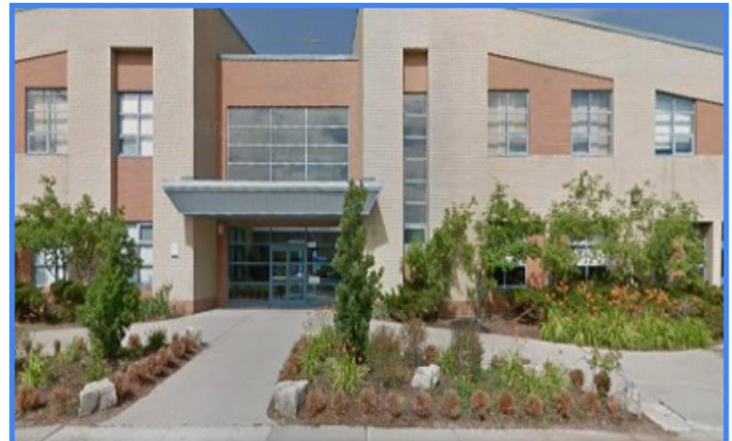
# Good New Stories

## A New Approach

Grade 8 student who loves his tech. He carries his laptop with him at all times. As much as he loves tech, he dislikes history.

He had an assignment that involved reading a news release on Confederation.

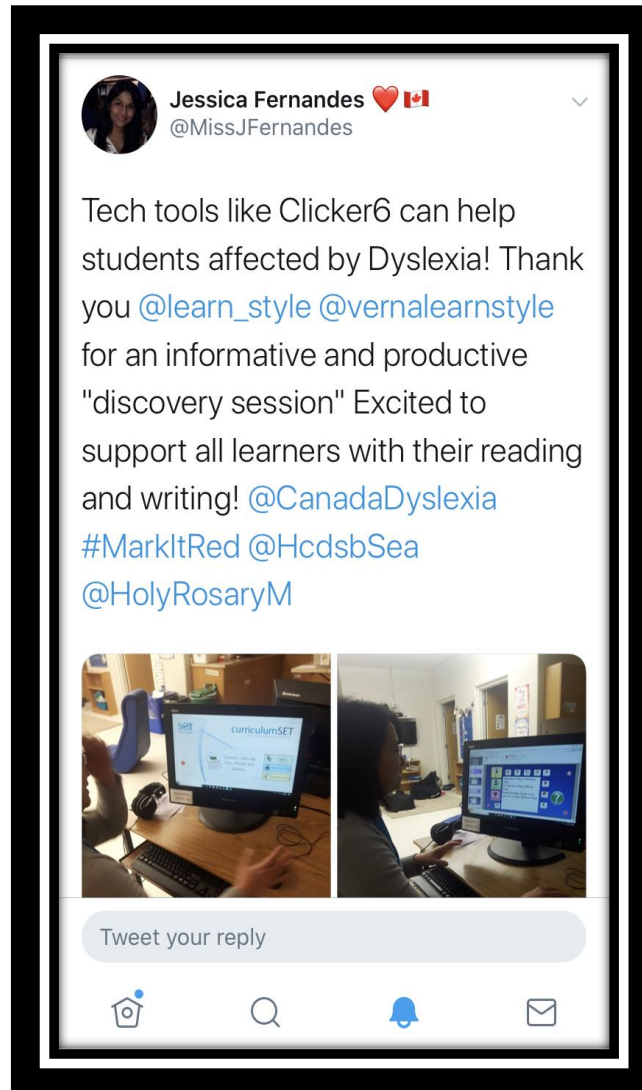
The language was challenging, the questions took some thought. The student's knee-jerk reaction was to balk and call himself dumb as well as, "I don't need history to be an engineer!" By talking it through and breaking it down - and using text to speech and speech to text - he was able to complete the assignment and go from an unmarkable result to something that was much closer to the 3+ he was looking for.



LEARNstyle®



# Taking to Twitter



# HCDSB SEA Showcase

[SEA Showcase](#) (Start at 22 sec) (End at 1:39 sec)



# Meet Bridget – Our Reason WHY

