



Durham Catholic District School Board
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 3, 2015 @ 7:30 p.m.

DCDSB Conference Centre
652 Rossland Road West, Oshawa

AGENDA

A. CALL TO ORDER

a.1 Memorials and Prayer L. Smart

a.2 Roll Call and Apologies

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

b.1 Changes to Printed Agenda

b.2 Approval of Agenda

C. ANNOUNCEMENTS

D. CONSIDERATIONS OF MOTIONS

d.1 Change in Representation for DDSA – resignation of Monica Dorgan

d.2 Change in Representation for DDSA– nomination of April Shiels

E. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

e.1 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

F. ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN

f.1 Approval of Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 6, 2015

f.2 Business arising from the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 6, 2015

G. PRESENTATIONS

g.1 Learning Disabilities

Dr. Carla Baetz

H. **DELEGATIONS**

I. **NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

J. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

K. **STAFF REPORTS**

- k.1 Coordinator's Report
- k.2 Superintendent's Report

C. Plommer
J. Bowyer

L. **ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

M. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- m.1 Upper Canada District School Board

N. **INQUIRIES AND MISCELLANEOUS**

O. **PENDING ITEMS**

P. **ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, Dec 8, 2015 @ 7:30 p.m. in the ***Boardroom*** at the Catholic Education Centre.

Q. **CLOSING PRAYER**

October 22, 2015

Lynne Smart, Chair, SEAC

Durham Catholic District School Board
650 Rossland Road West
Oshawa, Ontario
L1J 7C4

Dear Ms. Smart,

Re: Nominations of The Durham Down Syndrome Association's Representative to the DCDSB SEAC.

I am writing to notify you that The Durham Down Syndrome Association has appointed April Shiels as nominee for the position of Representative to the DCDSB SEAC for the 2015-2016 term.

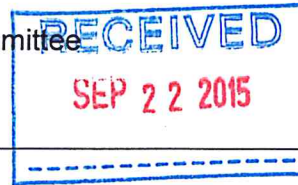
April Shiels is a member in good standing of The Durham Down Syndrome Association and has the qualifications required under the Education Act for the position of SEAC Representative.

We are grateful for her willingness to represent our organization in this volunteer capacity, and we look forward to receiving notification from you that her nomination has been approved by the DCDSB SEAC.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Wallis
DDSA President

president@ddsa.ca



September 15, 2015

The Honourable Liz Sandals
Minister of Education
14th Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Sandals:

Members of Upper Canada District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee (UCDSB's SEAC) would like to express our concern over the previous, current and future planned decrease in our special education funding, due to the reformulation of the High Needs Amount (HNA) calculation, which excludes the Special Incidence Portion...

- 2013/2014 HNA (adj. for Full Day Kindergarten) was funded at \$22,092,421,
- 2014/2015 HNA as per Revised Budget was funded at \$19,668,130,
- 2015/2016 HNA is estimated to be funded at \$18,676,063,
- 2016/2017 HNA is estimated to be funded at \$17,678,671, and
- 2017/2018 HNA is estimated to be funded at \$16,900,434

Although the funding reduction began in the 2014/15 school year, we had deferred revenue available to minimize the impact on our most vulnerable students for that year only. UCDSB no longer has deferred revenue with which to buffer the impact of this decrease.

Our senior staff have done an exceptional job of planning to ensure minimal impact is felt by our students in the classroom to date. However, any further reductions from the 2015/16 year funding level will result in significant impact at the classroom level. We are concerned about our board's ability to meet the legal requirements outlined in student's IEP's as well as our ability to respond to requests for IPRC's.

One measure that our board has implemented to respond to these budget constraints is creating Student Support Partners which amalgamates the Child and Youth Worker (CYW) and Behaviourist positions. For 2015/16 there will be 20 Student Support Partners. In 2014/15 there were 20 CYWs and 11 Behaviourists. This will result in the



absence of CYW's at high schools on a daily basis. These positions helped with significant mental health needs of our students and allowed for more engaged student learning. Students with anxiety and depression as well as students in crisis rely heavily on these CYW.

We currently see and hear about needs that have not been met and know that we have a responsibility to provide for those students' needs. The forecasted funding cuts for 2016/17 and 2017/18 make us very anxious about how our board will be able to meet its responsibility to our high needs population.

Sincerely,



Kimberley Wright,
SEAC Vice-Chair on behalf
of UCDSB SEAC Committee

cc: Ontario SEAC Committees