



## Durham Catholic District School Board

**MINUTES** of the **SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE** meeting of the Durham Catholic District School Board which was held in the North Board Room of the Catholic Education Centre, 650 Rossland Road West, in Oshawa on **Tuesday, September 12, 2017.**

### **Present**

L. Smart  
K. LeFort  
J. Oldman  
V. Adamo  
A. Shields  
L. Cook  
E. Van de Klippe  
C. Nosseir  
K. Burke  
M. LePage  
J. McCafferty

### **Staff**

J. Bowyer  
C. Baetz  
S. Phoenix  
M. Meraw

### **With Regrets**

L. McInnes

### **Absent**

B. Cummins  
M. Feeheley  
C. Pegler  
T. McGarry

### **S.E.A.C. Representatives**

K. McCarthy, APSSP  
L. Wardle, Principal/Vice Principal Association

## **CALL TO ORDER**

### **Item a.1 Memorials and Prayer**

Chair Lynne Smart called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. and offered the opening prayer. She welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **Item a.2 Roll Call and Apologies**

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

### **Item b.1 Changes to Printed Agenda**

None

### **Item b.2 Approval of Agenda**

Motion No. SS-2017-09-12-01 Approval of Agenda

Moved by K. LeFort seconded by M. LePage

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the agenda of the Tuesday, September 12, 2017 meeting as printed.”

Carried

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONSIDERATIONS OF MOTIONS**

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Item e.1**      **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

None

**ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN**

**Item f.1**      **Approval of Minutes of the Special Education  
Advisory Committee Meeting of May 2, 2017**

Motion No. SS-2017-09-12-02                      Approval of Minutes

Moved by K. LeFort seconded by L. Cook

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the May 2, 2017 meeting as submitted.”

Carried

**Item f.2**      **Business Arising from the Minutes of the Special Education  
Advisory Committee May 2, 2017**

None

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Item g.1**      **Ministry and Board Priorities**

**J. Bowyer**

Janine Bowyer, Superintendent of Education and Diane Mullane, Mental Health Leader, presented on the Ministry and Board Priorities. Superintendent Bowyer reviewed the Ministry practices which included the Renewed Math Strategy, Equity and Inclusive Education Three Year Strategy, and the Ontario Autism Program. She also reviewed the Board practices in these areas as well as introducing the Year of Service. Superintendent Bowyer reviewed the yearly goals as part of the Board Improvement Plan and Discovery 2020. Diane Mullane shared the new Together for Mental Health Strategy of 2017-2020.

**Item g.2      Integrated Transition Plans**

**M. Meraw**

Michelle Meraw, Consultant for Special Education, presented on Integrated Transition Planning. The Integrated Transition Plan is a coordinated, community plan developed by parents, schools and community agencies to support students 14 years of age or older who have developmental disabilities. This plan will help the young person transition from secondary school and child-centered services to adulthood.

**DELEGATIONS**

None

**NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

None

**STAFF REPORTS**

**Item k.1      Coordinator's Report – M. Meraw**

Parents as Partners Workshop Series in collaboration with Lake Ridge Community Support Services presents:

Location: Pope Francis Centre

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

September 28<sup>th</sup> - Toileting Success: How You Can Make it Happen

October 26<sup>th</sup> - Get Angry: A how to lesson on coping strategies for children with ASD

November 23<sup>rd</sup> - Changing Bodies...Changing Lives

Location: Pope Francis Centre

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Student Services will be offering the Friendship Lab After School Program on two evenings beginning the first week of October. This is a nine week program that provides Social Skills and Theory of Mind training for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Location and times are being finalized and registration forms will be distributed this week.

Save the Date – Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> – “Pathways to the Future...Looking Beyond Secondary School”. This year we will have a guest speaker from Ontario Disability Employment Network. More details will follow.

**Item k.1**      **Mental Health Leader's Report – D. Mullane**

Over the summer, DCDSB hosted two sessions of Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) for staff and community members. In total, 13 DCDSB staff members and 36 community members participated in the training.

Diane Mullane distributed a copy of the Together for Mental Health – Summer Updates Newsletter and shared that there are lots of great things happening this year, including:

- a new collaboration with Durham Region Health Department to promote the Psychology Foundations "stress lessons" programs
- 4 new ECE being trained to deliver the Roots of Empathy program in their kindergarten classrooms
- Ongoing capacity building with our staff (e.g., MHFA, safeTALK, ASIST, new Sharing of Excellence workshops, etc.)

A new "Square Breathing" classroom posters and cards for distribution to students was created. These will be distributed to schools shortly with a roll-out plan for teachers to introduce students to the strategy.

DCDSB, as well as two other boards have collaborated with Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences on two events that will take place on Oct 5 and 6, 2017. The evening event on Oct 5 (Growing Up in a Body Obsessed Culture) is geared to parents and community members. The daytime event on Oct 6 (Helping our Youth Navigate a Body Obsessed Culture) is geared to Secondary teachers and coaches. They would appreciate your assistance in advertising the October 5 (parents and community members) event. Posters were distributed at the meeting and will be sent electronically. Lastly, School Mental Health ASSIST has collaborated with CAMH to develop some info sheets for parents, for youth and for educators on Prescription Opioids, including Fentanyl. Diane Mullane would be happy to share these info sheets if they are relevant for your population. Please e-mail [diane.mullane@dcdsb.ca](mailto:diane.mullane@dcdsb.ca) directly if you'd like copies.

**Item k.3**      **Superintendent's Report - J. Bowyer**

Welcome back to all of our SEAC members.

Welcome to new members of Student Services Department

- Rachel Guilzan – Social Worker
- In order to fully support the number of initiatives associated with the Ontario Autism Plan we were able to hire Helen Killoran as our Consultant for Autism Services. She will continue her role on DCART and assumes new duties associated with Ministry initiatives.

- Anton Dombrosky – Technician for Assistive Technology. This brings our compliment of Assistive Technology technicians to three.

Pilot Project for ABA – Targeted Educational Assistant Training opportunity for up to 30 Educational Assistants. Targeted 40-hour online training module for Educational Assistants designed by Board Certified Behaviour Analysts (BCBA) and based on the Behaviour Analyst Certification Board (BACB) Registered Behaviour Technician (RBT) task list. The Ministry of Education has partnered with the Geneva Centre for Autism to design and deliver the program. Set to begin in the new year.

We are waiting for news about the success of the Pro Grant proposal SEAC submitted. We will still proceed with our Pathways to the Future event on November 7 regardless.

Motion SS-2017-09-12-03

Approval of the Sept. 12, 2017 Verbal Coordinator, Mental Health Leader and Superintendent Reports

Moved by J. McCafferty seconded by L. Cook

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee accept the verbal Coordinator, Mental Health Leader and Superintendent Reports at the September 12, 2017 Meeting.”

Carried

## **ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

Learning Disabilities Association – Durham – L. Smart

Integra Workshop Series Fall 2017

Northern District Library, Community Room, 40 Orchard View Blvd., Toronto

6:30-8:00 p.m.

To register Call 416-603-1827 ext. 5221 or sign-up online at:

<http://www.childdevelop.ca/programs/integra-program/workshops-and-training/workshop-registration-from>

Cost: \$15 per person

### VOICE for the Hearing Impaired – V. Adamo

The annual golf tournament will be held Sept 11, registration closed on Sept 4. Hear Here - an really fun annual event sponsored by the Union Hearing Centre, it will be held again this year at the Whitby Abilities Centre on Sept 24. From 11 to 4pm Everyone is welcome. Admission is \$10/child or a family pass of \$20.00. All monies raised go to the Keller fund at the hospital for sick kids. The Keller fund helps support the purchase or hearing aids and cochlear implants for families in need. Here is the link to the hear here page <https://www.uhac.ca/events/hear-here/>

Voice has been receiving an increased number or concerns from parents about an increase in the rate of declined eligibility for the disability tax credit. The voice board is reviewing the situation and will determine if there is an additional set of support activities that should be undertaken on this matter.

Over the summer a very successful family weekend camp was held at the Bark Lake Leadership center. Several Durham region families attended. This camp will again be in the event line up in august of 2018.

Visit the Voice web site at <http://www.voicefordeafkids.com/>

### Durham Down Syndrome Association – A. Shiels

DDSA Family Playgroup takes place first Saturday of the month. The Embassy Church, 416 Taunton Rd. W., Oshawa. Open to families - kids 10 and under – member of family must have Down Syndrome.

DDSA 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Special Needs Information Fair – Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at Heydenshore Pavilion in Whitby.

### Community Representative – L. Cook

Invictus Games – Sept. 23-30, 2017, Toronto  
Canadian team is made up of 90 athletes who acquired a physical or mental health injury while in Service for Canada.  
[invictusgames2017.com](http://invictusgames2017.com)

Fall/Winter registration for all Greater Durham Special Olympics programs underway – start week of Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>.  
[greaterdurham.specialolympicsontario.ca](http://greaterdurham.specialolympicsontario.ca)

Resources for Exceptional Children and Youth – Durham Region – L. McInnes

Sat., Sept 23, 2017 – RFECY Annual General Meeting and Family Day. RFECY will be celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at WindReach Farm.

Sat., Oct 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – DRCCF “Durham Region Child Care Forum Conference”  
Workshop/Registration information attached.

Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> 10:00am – 2:00pm Ready Set Grow Checkup and Lakeview Park Family Fun Day. Lakeview Park, Oshawa.

Friday, September 22, 2017 – “Indigenous Cultural Resilience & Trauma – Informed Practice Workshop”. Location – DCDSB Pope Francis Centre. Registration/Workshop information attached.

Website:

<http://www.rfecydurham.com/resourceportal/>

RFECY Parent Resource Portal

[www.rfecydurham.com](http://www.rfecydurham.com)

Views for the Visually Impaired – J. McCafferty

2017 CNIB Night Steps Whitby

Date: Friday, September 22, 2017

Registration @ 6:00 p.m. Walk: 7:00 p.m-9:00 p.m.

Location: Kids Safety Village, 1449 Athol Street, Whitby

Website: [www.cnibnightsteps.ca](http://www.cnibnightsteps.ca)

Cystic Fibrosis Canada – Durham Chapter – M. LePage

Durham Chapter Celebration Day, Sunday, November 12 – Oshawa Golf and Curling Club.

Princess Ball – Sunday, February 4, 2018 – Ajax Convention Centre, 11am – 2 pm

Autism Ontario – Durham Region – E. Van de Klippe

**Register today for PEERS® School-Based Certified Training Seminar for Educators of Adolescents**

**Date:** October 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 9:00am – 5:00pm

**Location:** Château Le Jardin Conference & Event Venue

**Address:** 8440 Hwy 27 - Woodbridge ON, L4L 1A5

Autism Ontario – Durham Region – E. Van de Klippe (Cont'd)

The PEERS® Certified School-based Training for Educators is designed exclusively for teachers, school psychologists, counselors, speech and language pathologists, administrators, and school-based professionals who are interested in learning to implement The PEERS® Curriculum for School-based Professionals. Attendees will obtain 24 hours of training over 3 days regarding use of the PEERS® Curriculum and the research behind the program.

**Upcoming Webinars:****Mindfulness and Acceptance Strategies for Parents**

**Date:** Friday, September 29th from 12pm to 1pm

Join Dr. Yona Lunsky, as she introduces the concept of mindfulness and acceptance relating to Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). In this webinar, Dr. Lunsky will focus on mindfulness and acceptance, and will highlight key themes discovered through parent focused projects. Whether you are a newbie when it comes to mindfulness or someone with extensive experience, this interactive webinar is sure to be inspiring!

Come out and join us on Sunday, October 22nd at 8:00 am for a 5km walk or run, or at 8:45am for the half-marathon or marathon. Get active and support Autism Ontario! The course starts and finishes in downtown Toronto. [Click here](#) for route details!

Use discount code 17AUTISMON42k for a discounted rate on the marathon or half-marathon and discount code 17AUTISMON5k for the 5k run or walk. Here's a helpful hint – you enter this code AFTER you've provided most personal information and selected the Charity Challenge!

Questions, please contact [Monica Richardson](#) or by phone at 416-903-6942.

Website: [www.autismontario.com](http://www.autismontario.com)

**CORRESPONDENCE****m.1 Special Education Funding Memorandum**

Motion No. SS-2017-09-12-04

Receive and File Correspondence

Moved by J. McCafferty seconded by E. Van de Klippe

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee receive and file the Special Education Funding Memorandum at the September 12, 2017 Meeting.”

Carried



m.2 **Certificate from Celina Caesar-Chavannes**

Motion No. SS-2017-09-12-05

Receive and File Correspondence

Moved by V. Adamo seconded by J. McCafferty

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee receive and file the correspondence received from Celina Caesar-Chavannes at the September 12, 2017 Meeting.”

Carried

**INQUIRIES AND MISCELLANEOUS**

n.1 **Review of Terms of References**

Janine Bowyer, Superintendent of Education, reviewed the Terms and References document; in particular attendance expectations outlined on page 6 for members and their alternates. She also reviewed the annual calendar (Appendix 3) and encouraged Association members to check with their associations to see if they were interested in presenting at upcoming SEAC meetings.

**PENDING ITEMS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Motion No. SS-2017-09-12-06    Adjournment

Moved by L. Cook seconded by C. Nosseir

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting of September 12, 2017 adjourn.”

Carried

**CLOSING PRAYER**

The closing prayer was offered by V. Adamo

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Lynne Smart  
Chair, Special Education Advisory Committee

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Janine Bowyer  
Superintendent of Education

Recording Secretary: Liz Beckstead