



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 11, 2018.**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>With Regrets</b>	<b>Absent</b>
V. Adamo (Vice-Chair)	J. Bowyer	M. LePage	
T. McGarry	M. Meraw	C. Pegler	
C. Nosseir	D. Lood		
J. McCafferty	D. Mullane		
K. LeFort	S. Phoenix		
K. Burke			
E. van de Klippe (tele)			
A. Shiels			
L. Cook			

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

B. Larson, APSSP

L. Wardle, Principal/Vice Principal Association

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Item a.1 Land Acknowledgment**

**Item a.2 Memorials and Prayer**

Vice-Chair Adamo called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and offered the opening prayer. She welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Item c.3 move to Item f.5 under Actions to be Taken – Request for Alternate from the Durham down Syndrome Association

Item f.6 addition under Actions to be Taken – Letter from LDAO

Item k.1 addition under Unfinished Business from Previous Meetings – Approval of Special Education Plan

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

Motion No. SS-2018-09-11-01      Approval of Agenda

Moved by K. LeFort, seconded by L. Cook

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the agenda of the Tuesday, September 11, 2018 meeting, as amended.”

Carried

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**CONSIDERATIONS OF MOTIONS**

None

**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 March 6, 2018**

Motion No. SS-2018-09-11-02      Approval of Minutes

Moved by K. LeFort, seconded by L. Cook

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the March 6, 2018 meeting as submitted.”

Carried

**Item f.2**      **Approval of Minutes of the Special Education  
Advisory Committee Meeting of April 10, 2018**

Motion No. SS-2018-09-11-03      Approval of Minutes

Moved by K. LeFort, seconded by L. Cook

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the April 10, 2018 meeting as submitted.”

Carried

**Item f.3**      **Approval of Minutes of the Special Education  
Advisory Committee Meeting of May 8, 2018**

Motion No. SS-2018-09-11-04                      Approval of Minutes

Moved by K. LeFort, seconded by L. Cook

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the May 8, 2018 meeting as submitted.”

Carried

**Item f.4**      **Approval of Minutes of the Special Education  
Advisory Committee Meeting of June 5, 2018**

Motion No. SS-2018-09-11-05                      Approval of Minutes

Moved by K. LeFort, seconded by L. Cook

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the June 5, 2018 meeting as submitted.”

Carried

**Item f.5**      **Request for Alternate from the Durham Down Syndrome Associaton**

Motion No. SS-2018-09-11-06                      Request for Alternate from the Durham Down  
Syndrome Association

Moved by J. McCafferty, seconded by L. Cook

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the appointment of Lori McLellan as alternate representation for the Durham Down Syndrome Association.”

Carried

**Item f.6**      **Resignation Letter and Request for New Representation from LDAO**

Motion No. SS-2018-09-11-07                      Resignation Letter and Request for New  
Representation from LDAO

Moved by J. McCafferty, seconded by A. Shiels

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee accept the resignation of Lynne Smart and approve the appointment of Kari Burke as representation for the LDAO and Heather Mendela as alternate representation for the LDAO.”

Carried

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Item g.1      Review of Social Work and Child and Youth Counsellor Delivery Model      S. Phoenix**

Shelley Phoenix, Manager of Clinical Services, presented an overview of the Social Work and Child and Youth Counsellor delivery models with an emphasis on key domains and core services and a detailed explanation of the variance between the Social Work and Child and Youth Counsellor positions within the school board. She also provided an illustration of the Tiered Intervention approach and responded to questions as they arose.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Item h.1      Ministry and Board Priorities**

Superintendent Bowyer provided that with the change in government leadership, the Board has continued to move forward but are waiting for some of the funding from the spring to be confirmed. The government is seeking input and reviewing all funding lines. In August, the Ministry of Education increased the Special Education Per Pupil Amount (SEPPA) funding and a decrease in the promised increase to the Special Incident Portion (SIP) funding. This created a funding deficit compared to what was promised in the spring.

Superintendent Board discussed the Board's priorities, including the Year of Joy, Renewing the Promise, the Board's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and strengthening relationships with the parishes.

The Student Services department intends to complete their strategic plan by the end of September and continue their support for Mental Health while supporting educators in their understanding of programming for Learning Disabilities and Intellectual Disabilities and increase their understanding of supporting students with ASD. Student Services will continue with the Experiential Learning Continuum and implement the changes from core services and key domains.

The Ontario Human Rights Commission released a new policy for Accessible Education for Students with Disabilities which was introduced to the Principals and Program Support Teachers today and will be reviewed at a future SEAC meeting.

**Item h.2**      **Goal Setting - SEAC**

A common goal of the Special Education Advisory Committee is to increase the promotion of the Committee itself by promoting the carousels more, and try to tighten the relationship between SEAC and the Parent Involvement Committee. The Committee suggested attending school council meetings and perhaps regional PIC. Consider asking for time on these agendas.

The Committee would also like to keep an eye on the changes from the government and learn how they can help. Superintendent Bowyer suggested that SEAC could write a letter to the government regarding the recent changes in Special Education funding.

The Committee would like to review the SEAC website and see what can be added before promoting it.

**Item h.3**      **Calendar Review**

Superintendent Bowyer reviewed the calendar with the Committee which is included in the Terms of Reference.

K. Burke requested that SEAC consider a presentation by Integra on how Mental Health impacts memory and learning titled “All About Memory – Understanding Impact of Memory on Academic, Social, Emotional and Behavioural Well Being” presented by Sarah Glover and Hayley Stinson.

K. Burke also suggested a brief presentation given by Dr. Diane Lood on Central Auditory Processing Disorder. This presentation could include a short You Tube video.

K. Burke also suggested that the authors of the new OHRC policy present.

The Committee requested an overview and update on the Empower Pilot. Superintendent Bowyer advised that the program will be implemented in October. A list of schools will be provided at the next meeting.

Grandview expressed an interest in presenting at a later date. Topic to be determined.

**DELEGATIONS**

None

**NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

None

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

### **Item k.1      Approval of Special Education Plan**

Motion No. SS-2018-09-11-08

Approval of Special Education Plan

Moved by K. LeFort, seconded by L. Cook

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the 2018-2019 Special Education Plan.”

Carried

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Item I.1      Coordinator’s Report – M. Meraw**

Today we hosted our first Program Support Teacher meeting of the year. All Secondary and Elementary PS, Guidance, Student Success teachers and Principals attended. The meeting included an opportunity for school teams to complete a self-assessment, sharing of the Student Services Internal Review, discussion around the Ontario Human Rights Commission report, presentation from BRT around Supporting Students with Behaviour Concerns, ‘Wandering the Web’ activity to review the Student Services Internal website , ‘Ask Doctor Diane’ session and a review of Policies/Procedures and Legal Concerns.

We also hosted our first PST mentoring session of the year. Mentors and mentees had an opportunity to meet and learn more about the program expectations. There are 9 new PST teachers and 8 mentors as part of the program.

This year Father Leo J Austin CSS will host the Special Olympics Durham Track and Field Meet on Thursday September 20, 2018. Schools from all over the Durham Region from both panels will be represented at this meet.

Durham Track & Field:

Date: Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Location: Father Leo J. Austin C.S.S.; 1020 Dryden Boulevard, Whitby, ON

Time: 9:30am registration, 1:30pm Bus pick-up

Registration Closes: Friday September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Registration Fee: \$5 per student

Events Offered:

- 50m, 100m, 200m, shot out, standing long jump

## **Item I.2      Mental Health Report – D. Mullane**

This year, we will continue to focus on the 5 strategic priorities outlined in Together for Mental Health 2017-2020, digging deeper in each of these areas.

In order to align with Ministry objectives, we'll be focusing efforts in a couple of specific areas including:

- Student engagement and student voice
- Continuous quality improvement
- Creating and sustaining mentally healthy classrooms (focusing on getting to the classroom level)

School Mental Health ASSIST (SMH-ASSIST) has, and will be introducing new resources and tools to support these areas.

To kick off the year, all Administrators were asked to share with their staff an online tutorial on Creating and Sustaining Mentally Healthy Classrooms to lay the foundation for other PD and resources that will be rolled out over the year.

In the next month, we'll be launching a Reflection Tool for Administrators to assist in reflecting on how their school is doing in terms of mentally healthy classrooms, and to support overall school improvement planning.

A reminder that our parent mental health conference has been rescheduled to October 17, 2018 at Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School. As of noon today, we have 388 registrations (max 500). Please continue to promote within your organizations. We are also in the process of building on our "Parents as Partners" offerings, by creating a workshop series for parents, (focused on special education and mental health needs) in addition to the conference. More details to follow.

Upcoming:

- October 2: TAMI Teaching TRaining (for teachers involved in the Intermediate TAMI program this year)
- Oct 4 & 5: Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)

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

Superintendent Bowyer welcomed back all of the returning SEAC members and the members of the audience. She shared the names of the new staff members in Student Services. Student Services has not heard whether or not the SEAC Pro-Grant has been approved for the 2018-19 school year yet, but we are prepared to offer our Pathways to the Future event on November 6, 2018 regardless. We also have plans to offer smaller, more localized and intimate parent sessions, many of which we can do without the SEAC Pro-grant.

Throughout the year, Superintendent Bowyer will keep you informed about all of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations, in particular SEAC members were given an invitation to the opening Board meeting of the year on September 24, 2018 in the Pope Francis Centre.

This August the Board hosted another successful golf tournament for the Children's Foundation. Next spring, Superintendent Bowyer will remind SEAC members about the possibility of putting a team together for this very special event.

This summer, Consultant Michelle Meraw volunteered at the National Special Olympics in Antigonish, NS. She was present when three of our former students received medals in their sports.

Superintendent Bowyer shared the Board and Ministry priorities as part of her earlier presentation.

Motion SS-2018-09-11-09

Approval of the September 11, 2018 Verbal  
Coordinator, Mental Health Leader and  
Superintendent Reports

Moved by K. LeFort, seconded by L. Cook

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee accept the verbal Coordinator, Mental Health Leader and Superintendent Reports at the September 11, 2018 Meeting.”

Carried



## **ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

### Learning Disabilities Association – Durham Chapter – K. Burke

Annual General Meeting- Thursday, September 27, 2018 Location Trent University, Oshawa

IEP Workshop- Focus on Successful IEP meetings, content and addressing technology in the IEP. Thursday, September 27, 2018. Location TBD

### VOICE – V. Adamo

Camp this year was a great success. The camp director was a Voice Camp alumni who is a Young adult double cochlear implant recipient. Approximately 40 families attended this year. The guest speaker was from the Canadian Hearing Society who spoke about preparing our kids for the challenges of transitions in particular how to support our kids in gaining independence as they mature and begin to transition into high school, university and solo living as young employed adults. Her practical advice and assistive devices demos were a big hit with the group.

On Sunday Sept. 30 between 11 and 4 Union Hearing Aid Centre will be hosting the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Hear Here Fun Fest. This year it has moved to the Hander in Downsview Park and is offering wheelchair accessible facility and inflatable. Admission is 10 per child or a family for \$20.00. All proceeds go to benefit the Keller fund at Sick Kids. This fund provides financial support for hearing aids and cochlear implant to those who qualify. This event has raise \$350.000 to date for the Keller fund. Information is available at [info@uhac.ca](mailto:info@uhac.ca)

### DDSA – A. Shiels

Aging with a Developmental Disability Workshop – Oshawa/Peterborough – January 2019

DREAMS Conference – Great Wolf Lodge – October 13, 2018

### Community Living Durham North – T. McGarry

Youth Group description and calendar of events until October 2018

Parent Information Night October 2018

Grandview Children's Centre – C. Nosseir

Paperwork Party Workshop – network and get support filling out funding applications (SSAH/ACSD) – Sept. 20 6PM Oshawa. RSVP required : <https://sept24paperworkparty.eventbrite.ca> password: family

Launching new service navigation roles at Grandview this month in an effort to streamline referral and intake processes. More info coming soon.

Believe Campaign Launch - Fri. Sept. 28 2018 – Grandview Oshawa

RunAjax for Grandview Kids – Sun. Sept. 30 2018 – Rotary Park Ajax

Annual Accessible Halloween event – Sun. Oct. 28 - Whitby Safety Village

Autism Society of Ontario – E. Van de Klippe

Join us on October 20th for Autism Day when the team faces off against the Montréal Alouettes Save money on tickets by visiting <http://bit.ly/argos18> and using the promo code: AUTISMONTARIO

The Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC) released its new Policy on accessible education for students with disabilities, along with recommendations on how to best meet legal obligations under Ontario's Human Rights Code.

Learn more about what this means for students with disabilities at: <http://bit.ly/2C5hHKG>

Ajax Downs has chosen Durham Chapter of Autism Ontario for their charity for 2018/2019.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**INQUIRIES AND MISCELLANEOUS**

None

**PENDING ITEMS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Motion No. SS-2018-09-11-10    Adjournment

Moved by L. Cook, seconded by C. Nosseir

“THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting of  
September 11, 2018 adjourn.”

Carried

**CLOSING PRAYER**

The closing prayer was offered by K. LeFort

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Valerie Adamo  
Vice-Chair, Special Education Advisory Committee

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Janine Bowyer  
Superintendent of Education

Recording Secretary: Candice Cavalier