



Halton District School Board

HALTON DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Special Education Advisory Committee
JWS – Large Boardroom
Tuesday, June 4, 2019, 7pm

MINUTES

- Present:** Lisa Cameron (Autism Ontario); Deirdre Woo (Association for Bright Children); James Baldwin (Member at Large); Diane Miller (Member at Large); Joanna Oliver (Trustee); Tracey Ehl Harrison (Trustee); Margo Shuttleworth (Trustee); Heather Gerrits (by phone) (Trustee); Diane Vandebossche (Learning Disabilities Association of Halton/Hamilton); Mike Brown (Halton Down Syndrome Association); Danielle Adair (Voice); Melissa Dockeray (Easter Seals Society); Lucille Morris (Member at Large)
- Staff:** Mark Zonneveld (Superintendent); Sean Marks (Principal of Special Education); Lorna Goodrow (Administrator)
- Regrets:** Sophia Siddiqi (Halton Down Syndrome Association); Alison Brindle (Learning Disabilities Association of Halton/Hamilton); Hetal Shah (Association for Bright Children); Kristina Huddy (Autism Ontario); Judy Shiels (Voice)

1.0 Opening

1.1 Welcome and Call to Order

D. Adair called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

1.2 Approval of Agenda

#132-19 L. Morris and D. Vandebossche

Be it resolved that the Special Education Advisory Committee approved the agenda for June 4, 2019.
Carried Unanimously

1.3 Minutes of May 7, 2019

#133-19 L. Cameron and M. Shuttleworth

Be it resolved that the minutes for the meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee for May 7, 2019 be approved.

Carried Unanimously

2.0 Action

2.1 Budget Discussion – M. Zonneveld presented the draft budget for 2019/2020.

2.2 Special Education Plan Revisions – M. Zonneveld directed SEAC members to Appendix R - Summary of Amendments on the last page of the Special Education Plan and pointed out further edits/revisions that have been made to the Plan. Members were sent a copy showing these edits/revisions prior to this evening's meeting.

M. Zonneveld asked that SEAC vote on the Special Education Plan as is before going to the Trustees on June 19, 2019 for approval. **D. Vandebossche** asked that a recorded vote be made for this. On a motion from **D. Adair**, the Committee voted on the Special Education Plan. **L. Morris** and **M. Dockeray** first and seconded this motion.

The following members and their respective associations that attended this evening approved the Special Education Plan:

Lisa Cameron (Autism Ontario)
Deirdre Woo (Association for Bright Children)
James Baldwin (Member at Large)
Joanna Oliver (Trustee)
Margo Shuttleworth (Trustee)
Mike Brown (Halton Down Syndrome Association)
Danielle Adair (Voice)
Melissa Dockeray (Easter Seals Society)
Lucille Morris (Member at Large)

The following members and their respective associations did not approve the Special Education Plan:

Diane Vandebossche (Learning Disabilities Association of Halton/Hamilton)
Diane Miller (Member at Large)

3.0 SEAC Discussion/Question Period

L. Cameron asked for an update on the Assistive Technology summer camps offered by Learnstyle. **M. Zonneveld** and **S. Marks** confirmed that these will take place this summer.

4.0 Communication to SEAC

4.1 Superintendent's Report - June 4, 2019

1. Special Education Review

An external review of our special education programs and services has been underway for the past three years. This review has been guided by a Steering Committee made up of representatives from SEAC, trustees, school principals and central staff. Phase I of the review focused on gathering baseline data about our students with special needs including student profiles, achievement, attendance and placements, as well as the experiences and perceptions of students, parents and staff. Phase II narrowed in on the referral, identification and placement pathways for students with autism, learning disabilities and giftedness. Phase III has just concluded and focused on the strengths, challenges, and best practices with assessment and identification of young children at risk for learning disabilities and giftedness. Reports for this Phase are being shared at the June 4 SEAC meeting and the June 5 Board meeting, including two summary documents. There is a great deal of information for SEAC members to read and consider. A presentation will occur at the SEAC meeting in September with the opportunity for discussion and consideration of recommendations and next steps.

2. Special Athlete's Track Meet

Our Special Athlete's Track Meet is being held this year on June 14 at Garth Webb Secondary School in Oakville, with a rain date of June 18. Each year this event draws over 300 participants from schools across Halton and is a wonderful opportunity for students to compete, participate and celebrate their abilities in a fun and inclusive atmosphere. SEAC members are welcome to stop by

and join the parents, trustees and staff as we cheer on our students. Special appreciation goes out to the volunteer students that support our athletes throughout the day, to the Optimist Club that hosts the barbeque for all students and staff, and to the staff that make this day possible and such a successful event.

3. Social Work and Child and Youth Counsellor Scope and Structure

Over the past two years staff have been considering how best to utilize the knowledge and skills of our Social Workers and CYCs to meet the needs of students. We first defined the scope of the work of these two roles, and then went on to determine structures that will support the delivery of the services. Many details of this work are being finalized and more will be shared with SEAC in the fall.

4. Project Search at Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital

Eleven students from across Halton in their final year of the Community Pathways Program (CPP) will participate in the Project Search coop program, which is a partnership between HDSB and OTMH, with support from Futures Found. This is our first year of this program which promises to be an excellent opportunity for students to participate in a full year coop experience at OTMH. We are really excited about this program, the opportunity it provides for our students, and the potential for expansion to other locations in Halton in the future. Staff hope to share a full presentation on the program at a future SEAC meeting.

4.2 Association Reports

LDAHH will be running it's Language Bootcamp with two hours of Orton-Gillingham remedial tutoring provided daily on weekdays from 15th-26th July. While it is almost full, there are still a couple of spaces available. The cost is \$1190 for members. LDAHH was awarded a grant from the Burlington Foundation and is working with CAMH to offer a 'Mental Health First Aid Workshop' for those that work/deal with youth. This is offered in August and in September over two full days. Spaces are still available <https://ldahalton.ca/mental-health-training/>

Please come and join us for a Trivia Night Fundraiser on July 14th. Tables are \$100 for up to five people and there are prizes for winners. It should be a great night out!

For those that need assistance or support over the summer, our office is open every day from 9.30am to 4pm (2pm on Mondays).

4.3 Trustee Reports

Halton Education Action - Public Consultations and Survey

1. Three public consultation sessions were held between May 2 and May 13, 2019 in Burlington, Oakville and Milton to inform the community about the proposed changes to education with respect to increases in elementary and secondary class sizes, increased requirements for e-learning and hiring practices. Trustees also created a website with information relevant to these consultation sessions along with Ministry documents related to the March 15, 2019 announcement of "New Vision for Education" (www.haltoneducationaction.ca). A survey was opened to the public between May 2 and May 17, 2019. In total, 6,853 individuals responded to the survey. Respondents were asked to offer their opinions on the proposed changes to

education. For a copy of the presentation delivered at the public consultation and the final report (to be available after May 31st) please refer to www.haltonactioneducation.ca

2. Staff will be presenting draft budget information at the Committee of the Whole meeting on May 29, and at the Board meeting on June 5. At the June 19 meeting, Trustees will turn to decision-making. These meetings are all open, and delegations are possible.
3. The Ministry of Education has approved the HDSB School Calendar for 2019-2020. Classes start on Tuesday, September 3, 2019.
4. The director has put his recommendation on the floor for the ERA 102 boundary review, involving Ryerson, Tecumseh, Frontenac, Pauline Johnson and John T. Tuck, supporting option 3b which widens Ryerson PS, Frontenac PS and Tecumseh PS 7 & 8 boundaries and shrinks John T. Tuck PS K - 8 boundary. John T. Tuck PS (K-8): K-8 boundary shrinks in size to include the catchments south of New St. Students that reside north of New St will be directed to Ryerson PS (K-6), Tecumseh PS or Frontenac PS (7 & 8). This will take a phased in approach starting with grades K-5, north of New St. Ryerson PS K-5 expansion in 2020, K-5 expansion in 2020, grade 6 added in 2021. No change to the boundary or projections for Pauline Johnson PS. However, there will be a unified cohort from Pauline Johnson to Frontenac whereas before it was split. Primary self contained gifted will remain at Ryerson and Tecumseh will also still accommodate self contained spec ed classes.

4.4 Committees and Interested Representatives

- PIC - none
- Accessibility and Coordinating Committee - none
- Special Education Review - none
- Equity and Inclusive Education Advisory Steering Committee - May 30, 2019 meeting generated some excellent discussion and input regarding the challenges, opportunities and strategies for the implementation of the Identity Based Data collection census (Pilot 2019-2020/ Full Census 2020-2021).
Anticipating the work: Small Group Brainstorming in partners
What are the Opportunities and Challenges to engaging with the community as we implement Identity Based Data Collection?
How can we capitalize on established relationships within and across our organizations to support this work?
A framework was developed for the 2 questions and will be fleshed out in the fall when the group reconvenes for 2019-2020
- Nelson/Robert Bateman High School (NEL/RBHS) Integration – M. Shuttleworth confirmed that office staff from Nelson will be moving to Bateman on June 28, 2019 in order for Nelson to start their renovations.

5.0 Next Agenda/Order Paper

The next SEAC meeting will be held September 10, 2019
Special Education Review
System start up information

6.0 Adjournment

6.1 D. Adair adjourned the meeting at 9:08 pm