



Halton District School Board

HALTON DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Special Education Advisory Committee
JWS – Large Boardroom
Tuesday June 6, 2017, 7pm

MINUTES

Present: Denise Nacev, **Chair** (Member-at-Large); Amy Collard (Trustee Alternate); Dawn Spence (Association for Bright Children); Tammy Beattie (Learning Disabilities Association of Halton); Kim Graves (Trustee Representative); Lucille Morris (Member-at-Large); Richelle Papin (Trustee Alternate); Diane Vandebossche (Learning Disabilities Association of Halton); Jason Bartlett (Member-at-Large); Carla Marshall (Autism Ontario); Mike Brown (Halton Down Syndrome Association); Sophia Siddiqi (Halton Down Syndrome Association)

Staff: Mark Zonneveld (Superintendent); Jane Lewis (Principal of Special Education); Margaret Kew (Vice-Principal of Special Education); Rebecca Bardin (SEAC Assistant)

Trustees:

Regrets: Sherry Foster (Association for Bright Children); Melissa Dockeray (Easter Seals Ontario); Leah Reynolds (Trustee Representative)

Absent:

1.0 **Opening**

1.1. Welcome and Call to Order

D. Nacev welcomed SEAC and called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

1.2. Approval of Agenda

#81-17 J. Bartlett/C. Marshall

Be it resolved that the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the agenda for June 6, 2017.

Carried Unanimously

2.0 **Call for Notices of Motion/Reports to the Board**

None.

3.0 **Action**

3.1. Minutes of May 23, 2017 meeting

#82-17 L. Morris/S. Siddiqi

Be it resolved that the minutes for the meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee for May 23, 2017 be approved.

Carried Unanimously

3.2. Special Education Plan

M. Zonneveld introduced the Sped. Plan 2017-2018.

D. Vandebossche inquired what the rationale was for changing the gifted screening tool?

M. Zonneveld responded that there were complications with the scoring on the Naglieri due to software issues and allowed an opportunity to look at other assessment tools.

The CCAT testing was reviewed with ABC SEAC Representatives S. Foster and D. Spence. This testing will compress the timelines needed for the testing which opens up opportunity for WISC testing.

D. Vandebossche inquired if there are concerns that CCAT has an online practice test?

M. Zonneveld responded that HDSB is cognizant of this but also understands that this exists with all testing.

K. Graves inquired about the submission process of the Minority/Majority report should the budget proposal be approved by the Board. D. Nacev responded that a

Majority/Minority report will be appended at a later date should it be submitted to the Board.

D. Nacev mentioned that Voice for Hearing Impaired Children will be removed from SEAC membership as there is no current representation.

D. Vandebossche suggested that a review of the screening process for all of the exceptionalities would be beneficial as there are distinct discrepancies.

LDAH volunteered to meet with Student Services to discuss these discrepancies.

M. Zonneveld thanked D. Vandebossche for her feedback and would like to arrange a date to review this with LDAH.

3.3. Highlights – Renewed Math Strategy/SERT Network Learnings

J. Lewis presented the topic of Supporting Students with LD in Mathematics and mentioned that the HDSB strategy has been presented to other boards in the province.

J. Lewis highlighted the HDSB Historical EQAO results – primary/junior math results.

The presentation highlighted items such as the model, collaboration between Student Services and School Programs and the data that was used to understand/differentiate and then determine the needs/next steps.

J. Lewis spoke to the celebrations of work, challenges, next-steps while also mentioning that the project would be doubled in 2017-2018 school year. The presentation concluded with a video that was created to highlight this work.

J. Lewis opened the floor to discussion and questions from SEAC, discussion ensued.

J. Lewis followed with a presentation of The SERT Learning Series/Collaborative Inquiries and highlighted the focus, resources, final steps and inquiry questions that were brought forward along with the positive effects of this series. J. Lewis confirmed that approximately 90 percent of SERT's were in attendance for the series.

K. Graves inquired if the teachers of the self-contained classes were invited to take part in this series of training? J. Lewis responded that each of the self-contained networks meet three to four times a year which provides training that is specific to their role.

M. Zonneveld mentioned that the presentation captured the highlights and the positive effects of the SERT networking series and will be shared with other networks to varying degrees.

3.4. SEAC Meeting Dates 2017/2018 & Membership

D. Nacev reviewed the 2017-2018 proposed SEAC dates with members and it was concluded that these dates would be posted to the HDSB website. Dates/locations for meetings may be changed throughout the school year as required.

4.0 Questions from the Public

None.

5.0 SEAC Discussion/Question Period

D. Vandenbossche requested an outline of the building capacity PD that has taken place along with the dollar value associated. M. Zonneveld responded that he will look into this further and follow up with D. Vandenbossche at a later date.

S. Siddiqi commented on the information shared regarding the Ministry's commitment to develop an accessibility standard for education. A survey link was shared with SEAC that is being used by the Ministry to gather feedback on the scope of the committee's possible mandate. S. Siddiqi asked if SEAC members have permission to share the survey link with parents. M. Zonneveld responded that the survey is open to the public and mentioned that the Ministry encourages that this be shared with SEAC, parents and school councils.

S. Siddiqi inquired if HDSB would be conducting a focus group. M. Zonneveld responded that HDSB will not be participating in the focus group due to time restraints.

6.0 Communication to SEAC

6.1. Superintendent's Report – June 6, 2017

1. **Accessibility Standards for Education**

See the attached documents. The Ministry has announced this initiative and launched a survey for anyone interested in participating. The deadline is July 14 and staff will complete the survey. SEAC and individuals are welcome to complete it as well.

2. **Special Athlete's Track Meet**

Our date is Fri. June 16, with a rain date of Wed. June 21. This year we are at Garth Webb SS in Oakville. SEAC members are welcome to join us for a wonderful day!

3. **Change in Gifted Assessment Tools**

The board is changing the assessment tool used for screening Gr 4 students during the 2017/18 school year. The OLSAT and Naglieri assessments will be replaced by the Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test (CCAT 7). The criteria for determining giftedness will remain the same, however the process and timelines need to be revised. This will be done as quickly as possible and shared with SEAC and the Board of Trustees before being reflected in Appendix J of the Special Education Plan.

6.2 Association Reports

LDAH – D. Vandebossche

- LDAO Educators Institute, August 22nd and 23rd – Hilton Mississauga, Meadowvale ON.

HDSA - S. Siddiqui

- Hosting Go21 – 3rd annual walk for Down Syndrome taking place on Saturday June 17th

ABC - D. Spence

- ABC annual picnic taking place at Lowville park on June 10th

6.3. Trustee Reports

K. Graves

- Special Board meeting on May 31st – tomorrow night is the PAR review
- Budget and LTAP on the June 21st Agenda

6.4. Committees and Other Reports

PIC

- D. Nacev received an email regarding the SEAC table and will respond on behalf of the members.
- LDAH has also requested a table for the event.

Equity & Inclusive Education Advisory Steering Committee

- Meeting to take place on Thursday - will send report out following the meeting

D. Nacev congratulated the Male winner of Bulrington Sport Alliance Dr. Frank Hayden Special Athletes Award, Mert Gulec and noted that M. Gulec is a student of Robert Bateman High School.

7.0 Next Agenda/Order Paper

8.0 Adjournment

8.1 Motion to Adjourn

#83-17 J. Bartlett/D. Vandebossche

“THAT the meeting be adjourned.”

Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm