

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 6, 2017, 7:00 p.m.
Board Room, Catholic Education Centre

The mission of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, in partnership with the family and Church, is to provide, in a responsible manner, a Catholic education, which develops spiritual, intellectual, aesthetic, emotional, social and physical capabilities of each individual to live fully today and to meet the challenges of the future, thus enriching the community.

Committee Members:

Sharon Hobin, Chair, Trustee, Mississauga Wards 2 & 8
Christine Koczmar, (Vice-Chair), Community Living Mississauga
Luz del Rosario, Trustee (Alternate), Brampton Wards 2, 5 & 6
Bruno Iannicca, Trustee (Alternate), Mississauga Ward 7
Thomas Thomas, Trustee (Alternate), Mississauga Ward 5
Myra Del Rosario, ABC Association for Bright Children
Nancy Vrbaneck, ABC Association for Bright Children (Alt.)
Dely Farrace, Brampton Caledon Community Living
Janice Hatton, Autism Ontario, Peel Chapter
Airene Cunanan, Autism Ontario, Peel Chapter (Alt.)
Lissette Gaylie, Easter Seals Ontario
Nisha Lewis, Canadian Mental Health Association/Peel
TBD, Epilepsy Halton Peel Hamilton
Veronika Okrugic, VOICE/Peel Parents for Hearing Impaired Children
Maria Demata, VOICE/Peel Parents for Hearing Impaired Children (Alt.)
Leslie Silvestri, Learning Disabilities Association of Peel region
Heather Bialowas, Down's Syndrome Association of Peel: Caring Network
Celeste Encila, Down's Syndrome Association of Peel: Caring Network (Alt.)
Bobbi Wilson, CCCSC, Member at Large
Andrew Pawlak, Member at Large

Rosie Della-Spina, Recorder

Staff:

David Amaral
Tilia Cruz
Wayne Brunton
Cathy Bova
Tina De Vellis-Carino
Kylie Richardson
Jason Pratt
Glenda Brown
Christiane Kyte
Debra Lean
Lisa Romano-Dwyer
Marilyn Minnick
Shannon Pompili Bosco
Sabrina Baiana
Tammie Cameron
Rosanna Commisso
Jacqui Toste
Michael Schaus
Deborah Hart
Kelly MacDougall
Kimberley Crhak
Laurie Eschli
Kellie Donaher

REVISED AGENDA

Advent Liturgy: Week 1 – Hope
Celebrant – Fr. Martin Pereira
St. John XXIII Chapel – CEC at 6:30 p.m.
Advent Gathering – 7:00 p.m.
SEAC Meeting – 7:15 p.m.

A Routine Matters

1. Call to Order and Attendance

2. Acknowledgement of First Nations Sacred Territory – “We would like to acknowledge that this is the sacred territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit, and thank them for being stewards of this land.”
3. Opening Prayer – Advent Prayer of Hope (*attached*)
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes, SEAC Meeting, November 15, 2017 – (*attached*)
6. Previous Business

B Presentations and Staff Reports

1. The Animals of the 150th Anniversary – video created by a student

C Budget

D Updates/Information/Reports from Trustees

1. *Draft Special Education in Ontario kindergarten to grade 12: Policy and Resource Guide 2017*; M. Minnick and S. Pompili Bosco

E Reports from Community Associations

F Work Groups

G Information and Correspondence

1. SELSD Secondary – Video on Inclusion; S. Pompili Bosco, Rosanna Commisso

H Communication

I Questions asked of, and by Committee Members

J Public Questions

K Future Meetings

January 17, 2018	March 7, 2018	May 16, 2018
February 14, 2018	April 11, 2018	June 13, 2018

L Adjournment

That our SEAC members continue the call to serve and advocate for the needs and supports of diverse learners and their families, and that they continue to call upon the Holy Spirit for wisdom and direction... We pray to the Lord. R

That those suffering because of illness, injury, or age be comforted in body and spirit and for those who have died recently, may they enjoy the fullness of life in God's presence ... We pray to the Lord. R

OFFERTORY HYMN:

Eye Has Not Seen p. 728

COMMUNION HYMN:

Like a Shepherd p. 402

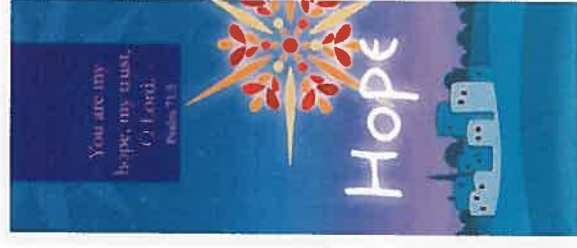
RESESSIONAL HYMN:

Angels We Have Heard On High p. 430

POSTLUDE CHRISTMAS HYMNS:

Joy to the World p. 437

Hark the Herald Angels Sing p. 424



Catholic District School Board



**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(SEAC)**

Advent Mass ~ First Week of Hope

President: Father Martin Pereira

*"For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are
(Acts 2.39)*

Wednesday, December 6, 2017



Special thank you to Luc Gaylie for his music ministry



OPENING HYMN:

O Come, Divine Messiah! p. 401

FIRST READING ~ Isaiah 25.6-10

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

R. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell, forever and ever.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Lord is coming to save his people; happy are those prepared to meet him.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 15. 29-37

Jesus healed many people and multiplied the loaves of bread

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

The response to the petitions is: Lord, give light to our hearts.

That the Church be always awake to the light of Christ's instruction, and that God's love will shine in the leadership of the Pope and bishops, and the ministry of our priests... We pray to the Lord. R

For our faith community to bring about Christ's healing in our families, cities, and world... We pray to the Lord. R

For our community and those in education who are called to spread the news of hope and joy; may their teaching and guidance inspire others to Christ... We pray to the Lord. R

PRAYER OF HOPE

Lord,

We gather today in your name as parents and people of faith.

As we enter into the Advent season our hearts await the great HOPE brought to us by the birth of your Son Jesus.

Guide us to be people of HOPE for the children you have sacredly entrusted to us.

May we keep this sentiment at the heart of all we do and say and may we look for your grace in the small moments during this busy time.

You know our pains and struggles and joys as parents and our HOPE lies in you to bring our children to know you and love you more each day.

Be with us now and always.

We ask this through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen

Patricia Dal Ben, 2017.

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, November 15, 2017, 7:00 p.m. Board Room, Catholic Education Centre

The mission of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, in partnership with the family and Church, is to provide, in a responsible manner, a Catholic education, which develops spiritual, intellectual, aesthetic, emotional, social and physical capabilities of each individual to live fully today and to meet the challenges of the future, thus enriching the community.

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Pam Olivieri, CCCSC, Member at Large
Andrew Pawlak, Member at Large

Rosie Della-Spina, Recorder

REGRETS: S. Hobin, B. Iannicca, V. Okrugic

ABSENT: A. Pawlak,

MINUTES

A Routine Matters

1. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was opened at 7:04 by Vice-Chair, C. Koczmar. Guests were welcomed; regrets and staff changes were noted and attendance taken. Vice-Chair started the meeting until Trustee L. del Rosario arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Staff:

David Amaral
Tilia Cruz
Wayne Brunton
Cathy Bova
Tina De Vellis-Carino
Kylie Richardson
Jason Pratt
Glenda Brown
Christiane Kyte
Debra Lean
Lisa Romano-Dwyer
Marilyn Minnick
Shannon Pompili Bosco
Sabrina Baiana
Tammie Cameron
Rosanna Commisso
Jacqui Toste
Michael Schaus
Deborah Hart
Rosalie Mittica
Kimberley Crhak
Laurie Eschli
Kellie Donaher

2. C. Koczmaro read, as part of our By-Laws, under Routine Matters: Acknowledgement of First Nations Sacred Territory – “We would like to acknowledge that this is the sacred territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit, and thank them for being stewards of this land.”
3. Opening Prayer – What Would Jesus Do?
C. Koczmaro led us in our opening prayer.
4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by L. Gaylie

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

5. Approval of Minutes, SEAC Meeting, October 11, 2017
L. Silvestri asked that the minutes be amended to note that Barb Wallace is no longer with Learning Disabilities Association of Peel Region and an intern to be announced in the near future.

Moved by D. Farrace

THAT THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 2017 BE APPROVED AS AMENDED

CARRIED

6. Previous Business - NIL

B Presentations and Staff Reports

1. Financial Services Update; Superintendent J. Cherepacha, B. Hester, I. Fitz, G. Arangio
The Finance Team was welcomed and introduced. Financial Services presented at SEAC last April. Input taken from SEAC was given for the 2017-18 budget presentation to the board of trustees in June. Superintendent Cherepacha and Team updated SEAC on the budget for 2017-2018 in regards to the Special Education portion. A brief overview was presented and a handout provided. Highlights of the filed 2017-18 included: it was a compliant budget; deficit of \$3.6M is being offset by accumulative surplus; decline in student enrolment was less than 1%; negotiated agreement extensions led to a significant re-investment back into the system i.e. teaching, support staff, custodial etc. In 2018-19, the provincial government plans to come out with an early budget. There will be another public budget consultation on April 26, 2018, one during the day and another in the evening. Details will be on the website in the new year. A request was made for an electronic copy of the handout be sent to all SEAC members. Questions were taken and responses given.
2. Learning and Achievement, Provincial Assessments – B. Kipfer, T. Cruz
Brad Kipfer, through a PowerPoint presentation, provided EQAO data for students in grades 3, 6 & 9 with diverse learning needs and compared over 5 years. The results were shared in a report to the Trustees. The goal for all of our students from JK to Grade 12 is to be successful achievers under the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations. Mr. Kipfer reviewed three of the questions asked on the junior student test comparing responses of special needs students with all students across the board. The questions were on reading, writing and math. Trends

showed improvement in reading and writing and in math, we are aligned with provincial trends. Scores in Math are stable however continue to fall across the province. Professional Development is being provided for our resource teachers on use of manipulatives and resources to help our students achieve. Programs are being looked at to help with diagnostic assessment and improving math results. For Grade 9 math, students with special needs do very well in academic math compared to students across the board. In applied math, we see similar trends as other students. Results on the OSSLT were consistent to those of the past five years. Overall results showed that students performed well and results are stable.

M. Minnick highlighted some successful strategies used to support students including professional learning for teachers as well as personalized supports, parent engagement, and technology. T. Cameron spoke about the Renewed Math Strategy that is in its second year and went on to explain the vision, which is throughout the province. This initiative supports all learners. Knowing the learner is at the heart of what we do in Dufferin-Peel. Staff can help support each student through responsive instruction, providing a responsive environment using curriculum to respond to content. T. Cruz spoke about some of the resources that are being explored to help the learners and helping staff understand the resources they have and how to use them to help students. S. Pompili Bosco spoke about supports through technology. Students use technology to support their learning as identified in Individual Education Plans (IEP). Additional teachers with a focus on technology have been hired to support students. Technology in Special Education has grown substantially over the years and the software purchased is with a specific focus for each student. A soft copy of the EQAO report will be sent out to members and a hard copy to the next meeting. Questions were taken and responses given.

3. The Animals of the 150th Anniversary – video created by a student
This presentation was moved to the December 6, 2017 SEAC meeting.

C Budget - NIL

D Updates/Information/Reports from Trustees

1. Update regarding Board websites was brought up at Faith and Program meeting. All school websites were updated.
2. All of our schools are 100% ECO certified.
3. The Special Education Report shared Dufferin-Peel exceeds the Provincial EQAO in test results. Dufferin-Peel also has one of the highest graduation rates in Ontario.
4. The Board of Trustees will begin working and developing a multi-year strategic plan. On December 7 there will be a webinar at 10:00 a.m. and again at 7:00 p.m. If you can't attend a Parent Council meeting at your school, you can dial in from home to watch the different plans. Please go to our website for registration information under Catholic Board Improvement Learning Cycle 2017-2018.
5. On Saturday, November 18, 2017, St. Pio of Pietrelcina will be hosting the Minister of Education of Poland at their International Languages site from 9 – 11:30 a.m. The purpose of this meeting

is to learn about the Canadian Education System with a focus on International Languages. All are welcome.

6. Superintendent Cruz asked members to provide flyers to be posted within a week after SEAC so we can forward on to our Communications department to have posted. Also, association emails were shared in the event that a late flyer can't be posted. R. Della-Spina will forward on by email to all members.
7. Next SEAC meeting will be on December 6 and we will have our Advent mass celebrated by Fr. Martin Pereira at 6:30 p.m. in the St. John XXIII chapel here at the Catholic Education Center. An invitation was extended to all members to bring their families. There will be light refreshments following the mass and then following with a SEAC meeting. We will have staff on hand with games and activities for the children during the meeting so that SEAC members can participate in the meeting.
8. Update SEAC Goals 2017-2018; M. Minnick, S. Pompili Bosco
Thanks went out to all members who provided feedback for the SEAC Goals. M. Minnick and S. Pompili Bosco reviewed the Goals for 2017-2018. A copy of the SEAC Goals 2017-2018 was handed out.
9. PRO Grant updates: J. Toste updated SEAC members on the evening of Preparing your child with Differing Abilities for the Sacraments coming up on November 30, 2017. We have 21 families registered so far. M. Minnick updated on Mental Health and Awareness ideas about offering Safe Talk on Suicide Alertness. Dr. Susan Sweet has been contacted and we are moving forward. There will be 2 sessions held on May 2nd here at the Catholic Education Center, each session will hold 30 people. The evening will begin with a light dinner from 5 – 6 p.m. and sessions will promptly begin at 6 p.m. running 3 hours.

E Reports from Community Associations

1. Community Living Ontario flyer 'A Million Possibilities'. Colin Sanders is rowing the Atlantic Ocean by himself and is supported by students and teachers across the province. The flyer will be posted under Upcoming Events on the Board website.
2. Learning Disabilities Association of Peel Region has additional funding available and is offering children and young adults to have psycho-educational assessments. The association is reaching out to the Board to try and fast track to spend this money of \$70,000 by December. An average per assessment is \$2,000 and is open to all of Peel. T. Cruz will share this information with the Family of Schools Consultants. Leslie Silvestri can be contacted if interested.
3. Canadian Mental Health Association/Peel has recently expanded their Quick Guide: Mental Health & Addictions Resources serving Peel Region, Dufferin County & surrounding areas. An app for this resource is also available. CMHA has also expanded their 24.7 Crisis Support Peel.
4. Easter Seals Ontario is having their skate with the Toronto Maple Leafs. Registration is online.
5. CCCSC representative Pam Olivieri announced that there will be a new representative for CCCSC, Bobbi Wilson, as Pam moves on to Chair of CCCSC. Pam thanked everyone on SEAC for the learning opportunity.

F Work Groups - NIL

G Information and Correspondence - NIL

H Communication - NIL

I Questions asked of, and by Committee Members

J Public Questions

A comment was made on the process for public to ask questions. Parents feel that sometimes they need to ask question when the subject comes up. Trustee del Rosario responded that this has been formal board meeting process and it would have to be taken back for discussion. Superintendent Cruz also said that we would have to find out if the protocol can be changed and then it would have to be voted on by SEAC. C. Koczmar, Vice-Chair told parents their input is greatly appreciated and encouraged parents to get involved with the associations so they can sit around the table.

St. Patrick Church in Brampton will have an all-inclusive mass on Saturday, December 2 at 2 p.m. All are welcome.

K Future Meetings

December 6, 2017	February 14, 2018	April 11, 2018	June 13, 2018
January 17, 2018	March 7, 2018	May 16, 2018	

L Adjournment

Moved by P. Olivieri:

THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 9:47 P.M.