

AGENDA

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

CEC - Boardroom

Mission: Disciples of Christ, nurturing mind, body, and soul to the fullness of life.

Vision: Changing the world through Catholic education.

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A. Routine Matters

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| 6. | Previous Business | |

B. Presentations and Staff Reports

1. Review of Bylaws and Terms of Reference: M. Beck
2. Review of Current Special Education Plan: S. Baiana
3. PROGrant Sacramental Preparation Update: E. Moniz-Baptista, T. Cameron
4. Gifted Information Evening: J. Toste

C. Budget

D. Reports from Trustees for Receipt

E. Information/Reports from Community Associations

F. Information and Correspondence

G. Communication

H. Questions Asked by Committee Members

I. Questions asked by the Public

J. Future Meetings

November 15, 2023

December 13, 2023

January 17, 2024

February 21, 2024

March 20, 2024

April 17, 2024

May 15, 2024

June 12, 2024

K. Adjournment



OPENING PRAYER

Lord, we ask for your wisdom, for your strength and power to be constantly present within us.

We pray you would make us strong and courageous for the road ahead.

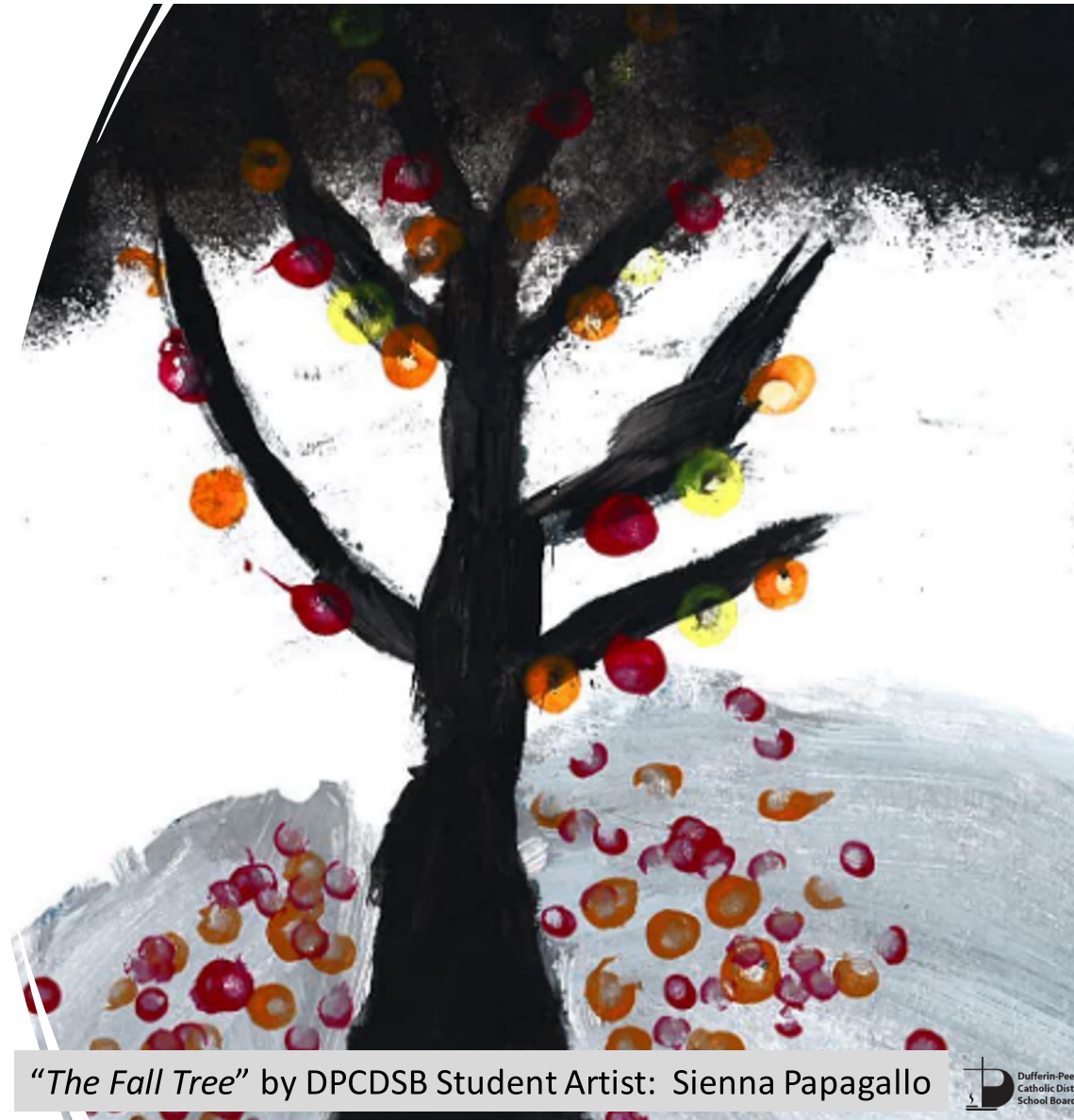
Give us ability beyond what we feel able, let your gifts flow freely through us, so that you would be honored by our lives, and others would be drawn to you.

Amen

Land Acknowledgement

We are here to pay respect and recognize that this is the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nations, and we are here because this land was occupied. In recognizing that this space occupies colonized First Nations territories, and out of respect for the rights of Indigenous people, it is our collective responsibility to recognize our colonial histories and present-day implications and honour, protect and sustain this land.

Special Education and Learning Services



"The Fall Tree" by DPCDSB Student Artist: Sienna Papagallo

MINUTES

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

**Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 7:00 p.m.
Boardroom, Catholic Education Centre**

| | | |
|------------|---|---|
| Attendees: | Bruno Iannicca Heather Bialowas Airene Cunanan Myra Del Rosario Lissette Gaylie Janice Hatton Caroline Huxtable | Trustee - Chair Down Syndrome Assoc. of Peel: Caring Network - Representative Autism Ontario, Peel Chapter - Alternative ABC Association for Bright Children - Representative Easter Seals Ontario - Representative Autism Ontario, Peel Chapter - Representative Epilepsy South Central Ontario - Representative |
| Regrets: | Gian Luca Ferrari Debbie Hammond Luz del Rosario Thomas Thomas Herman Vilorio Dely Farrace Shanna Walsh Kevin Hickey Andrea Isaac Liza Dowson Christine Koczmaro Lisa Papaloni | Member At Large, Central Committee for Catholic School Councils Dufferin-Peel Educational Resource Workers' Association - Representative Alternate Chair Alternate Trustee Alternate Trustee Brampton Caledon Community Living - Vice Chair - Representative Down Syndrome Assoc. of Peel: Caring Network - Alternative VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children - Representative OECTA Elementary - Alternative Ontario Association for Families of Children with Communication Disorders - Representative Community Living Mississauga - Representative Learning Disabilities Association of Peel Region - Representative |
| Staff: | Lucy Papaloni Sabrina Baiana Pam Boniferro Tammie Cameron Teresa Abbruscato Joanne Dean Clementine D'Souza Pina Grosso Christiane Kyte Cristine Pergotski Laura Pincente Jacqueline Toste Sharon Chambers Christa Wigglesworth | Superintendent, Special Education and Learning Services Coordinator, Diverse Learning Needs Dufferin-Peel Educational Resource Workers' Association - Alternative Consultant, Diverse Learning Needs Consultant, Diverse Learning Needs Chief, Speech/Language/Hearing/Vision Consultant, Secondary Transitions and Diverse Learners Chief of Social Work General Manager, Clinical Services and Spec Education Association of Professional Student Services Personnel Coordinator, Diverse Learning Needs Consultant, Diverse Learning Needs Elementary Principal Vice Principal Representative Child and Youth Care Practitioner |
| Recorder: | Katherine Magee | Executive Assistant to Superintendent of Special Education |

A. Routine Matters

1. Call to Order and Attendance
Chair of SEAC, Bruno Iannicca, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Opening Prayer - M. Del Rosario
3. Acknowledgment of the First Nations' Sacred Territory - S. Baiana
4. Approval of Agenda

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

5. Approval of Committee Minutes

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING, JUNE 14, 2023, BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

6. Previous Business

Trustee Bruno Iannicca will address the previous business at the October SEAC meeting, after he has met with the Board of Trustees.

B. Presentations and Staff Reports

1. Introductions: Superintendent Papaloni
Superintendent Papaloni introduced L. Pincente, S. Baiana, C. Kyte, P. Callender to provide summer updates.

2. Summer Updates: L. Pincente, S. Baiana, C. Kyte, P. Callender

P. Callender, Coordinator, Well-Being, discussed the Mental Health and Well-Being Champions' summer training on Jamboards. She presented a video message from the Champions. C. Kyte, General Manager of Clinical Services and Special Education, discussed the supports provided during the summer months including the Mental Health Support Line. She also detailed the summer assessments and summer camps. S. Baiana, Coordinator, Diverse Learning Needs, explained the summer learning programs offered, including summer school programs and literacy and numeracy programs. L. Pincente, Coordinator, Diverse Learning Needs, discussed the Get Ready Program for Secondary Schools.

L. Gaylie asked what age group received the Speech/Language assessments. C. Kyte answered that there were no parameters, it is based on the needs in the Family of Schools. L. Gaylie asked if assessments continue in September. C. Kyte replied that they continue throughout the year. The summer assessments are additional supplementary assessments provided through a Ministry grant. L. Gaylie asked if the support staff was all ERWs. C. Kyte replied that both resource teachers and ERWs were involved. A. Cunanan asked if support

for Mental Health was ongoing, and how students and parents are made aware of this support. P. Callender answered that every Secondary School has access to social workers and CYWs and some schools also have a Mental Health support worker. They are there to provide continued support to the students. The Mental Health Champions are there to guide the students. L. Gaylie asked if the camp was a grant. C. Kyte answered yes. L. Gaylie asked if other students with disabilities also have an opportunity to go to camps. C. Kyte answered that currently, this grant is only for Autistic students. The committee can write to the Ministry to request this. Trustee Bruno Iannicca agreed that the committee should write a letter and we can review it. Superintendent Papaloni suggested that she can ask at the next Ministry meeting. This was agreed upon. A. Cunanan asked why the Transitions program was not offered. L. Pincente answered that in the spirit of integration, the Transitions program was combined with the Get Ready program in the schools. This also allowed for better attendance.

3. Uplifting Special Events: S. Baiana

S. Baiana, Coordinator, Diverse Learning Needs, asked the committee members to provide dates of significance in their organizations through a form that will be sent to them. She invited members who were interested in speaking at future SEAC meetings to advise K. Magee.

Trustee Bruno Iannicca mentioned that this is a great opportunity to highlight their organizations.

4. PRO Grants and Other Updates: E. Moniz-Baptista, T. Cameron

Superintendent Papaloni introduced E. Moniz-Baptista, Consultant, Special Education and T. Cameron, Consultant, Special Education. E. Moniz-Baptista and T. Cameron updated the committee on the upcoming PROGrant: Preparing your Child with Differing Abilities for the Sacraments. Adaptive kits will be provided. These kits help the students participate. K. Magee will send out the information flyer to the committee. Any members interested in participating were asked to contact K. Magee.

L. Gaylie said that if the information doesn't get to the parents, students might miss the opportunity. T. Cameron stated that the information goes through our entire system. The teachers pass on the information as well.

C. Budget - Nil

D. Reports from Trustees for Receipt

Trustee Bruno Iannicca reviewed the new school year start up. All bus runs have drivers this year. The Kiss and Ride program is challenging in some schools, causing parental concern. There is funding for another Secondary school in North Brampton. Reorganization will be happening soon, due to declining enrolment. There may be loss of staffing. Allocation will be based on greatest needs. Trustee Bruno Iannicca requested a report on how staff is allocated to schools for children that learn differently.

L. Gaylie mentioned that it's important to know that all students are fully supported. Do we have the capacity to meet their needs? Trustee Bruno Iannicca answered that our administrators do everything they can to ensure that children that learn differently get everything they can to support them. M. Del Rosario mentioned that not all services are provided by the board, such as ErinOak. Therefore, when there is a shortage of nurses or therapists and people complain, it may not be the

board that is responsible for this problem. C. Kyte replied that school staff need to advocate for the families to assist with outside providers. Trustee Bruno Iannicca stated that this is outside of our scope to manage it. M. Del Rosario asked how these organizations decide where to allocate their services. Trustee Bruno Iannicca asked the committee if someone from ErinOak can come in and help answer these questions. Superintendent Papaloni will look into this. C. Huxtable mentioned that allocation may be based on the number of needs per child, not just the number of children. She asked how many hours are allotted per child? Superintendent Papaloni answered that it would be difficult to break it down to hourly allotment. There are many factors involved in determining the amount of support provided. These factors may change throughout the year and decisions have to be revisited. Each case is looked at individually.

E. Information/Reports from Community Associations

H. Bialowas, Down Syndrome Association of Peel, discussed the speech and language opportunities for their kids. She mentioned the Gala Event on October 21st to raise funds for Down Syndrome children. Details can be found on the DSAP website.

F. Information and Correspondence - Nil

G. Communication

Superintendent Papaloni discussed the upcoming review of our meeting guidelines with council Margaret Beck. Going forward, meetings will end at 8:30 p.m. with any outstanding items being carried forward.

H. Questions Asked by Committee Members - Nil

I. Questions asked by the Public - Nil

J. Future Meetings

October 18, 2023

November 15, 2023

December 13, 2023

January 17, 2024

February 21, 2024

March 20, 2024

April 17, 2024

May 15, 2024

June 12, 2024

CARRIED

K. Adjournment

Moved by C. Huxtable.

THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 8:25 P.M.

CARRIED