

## AGENDA

### Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 9, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Conference Call

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

*Vision: Changing the world through Catholic education.*

Pages

#### A. Routine Matters

1. Call to Order and Attendance
2. Acknowledgement of First Nations Sacred Territory
3. Opening Prayer
  - a. Year End Closing Liturgy
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes, SEAC Meeting, May 19, 2021
6. Previous Business

2

#### B. Presentations and Staff Reports

1. Upcoming Program in Special Education & Learning Services - The Secondary Advantage Program; Rosanna Commisso, Laura Pincente
2. Road to Adulthood: Supporting Transitions to Adulthood; Laura Pincente, Consultant - Secondary Transitions and Diverse Learners, and Carol Jones Itinerant Teacher for Transitions - Secondary
3. Summer Programs in Special Education and Learning Services; Christiane Kyte, Tamika Bunting, Rosanna Commisso

#### C. Budget

#### D. Reports from Trustees for Receipt

#### E. Information/Reports from Community Associations

#### F. Work Group

1. Summary of PRO Grants; Special Education and Learning Services Team

#### G. Information and Correspondence

#### H. Communication

#### I. Questions Asked of, and by, Committee Members

#### J. Questions asked by Public

#### K. Future Meetings - TENTATIVE

#### L. Adjournment

6

MINUTES

**Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 19, 2021, 7:00 p.m.  
Conference Call**

Attendees:	<p>Bruno Iannicca Leslie Silvestri</p> <p>Thomas Thomas Myra Del Rosario Dely Farrace Airene Cunanan Heather Bialowas</p> <p>Laurie-Anne Clark</p>	<p>Trustee - Chair Learning Disabilities Assoc. of Peel Region, Vice-Chair - Rep Trustee Rep./Alt. Chair ABC Association for Bright Children - Rep Brampton Caledon Community Living - Rep Autism Ontario, Peel Chapter - Alt Down Syndrome Assoc. of Peel: Caring Network - Rep Member At Large, Central Committee for Catholic School Councils</p>
Regrets:	<p>Luz del Rosario Nancy Vrbanek Janice Hatton Lisette Gaylie Christine Koczmar Celeste Encila Caroline Huxtable Karina Hernandez</p>	<p>Alternate Trustee ABC Association for Bright Children - Alt Autism Ontario, Peel Chapter - Rep Easter Seals Ontario - Rep Community Living Mississauga - Rep Canadian Mental Health Assoc./Peel - Alt Epilepsy South Central Ontario - Rep Alternate Representative - CCCSC Member at Large</p>
Staff:	<p>Deborah Finegan-Downey</p> <p>Cairine MacDonald Christiane Kyte</p> <p>Rosie Della-Spina</p> <p>Joanne Dean Rosanna Commisso Sabrina Baiana Tammie Cameron Jacqueline Toste Michael Schaus Blair Patterson</p> <p>Laurie Eschli</p> <p>Cristine Pergotski</p> <p>Frances Campese Sharon Chambers</p>	<p>Superintendent, Special Education and Learning Services Superintendent, Family of Schools General Manager, Clinical Services and Spec Education Administrative Assistant, Special Education and Learning Services Chief, Speech/Language/Hearing/Vision Coordinator, Diverse Learning Needs Consultant, Assessment/Evaluation/Data Consultant, Diverse Learning Needs Consultant, Diverse Learning Needs OEETA Elementary Dufferin-Peel Educational Resource Workers' Association Dufferin-Peel Educational Resource Workers' Association Association of Professional Student Services Personnel Principal, Vice Principal Association, Secondary Principal, Vice Principal Association, Elementary</p>

Laura Pincente	Consultant, Secondary Transitions and Diverse Learners
Debra Lean	Chief of Psychology
Sandra Roiati	OECTA Secondary
Tamika Bunting	Coordinator Students with Diverse Learning Needs
Pina Grosso	Chief of Social Work

#### A. Routine Matters

1. Call to Order and Attendance

Chair of SEAC, Bruno Iannicca, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with quorum. Guests were welcomed and regrets noted.

2. Acknowledgement of First Nations Sacred Territory

Chair of SEAC, Bruno Iannicca, acknowledged the sacred territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

3. Opening Prayer

Dely Farrace, representative for Brampton Caledon Community Living led the Opening Prayer.

4. Approval of Agenda

**Moved by** Heather Bialowas

**THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.**

**CARRIED**

5. Approval of Minutes, SEAC Meeting, April 21, 2021.

**Moved by** Laurie-Anne Clark

**THAT THE MINUTES OF SEAC MEETING, APRIL 21, 2021, BE APPROVED.**

**CARRIED**

6. Previous Business - NIL

#### B. Presentations and Staff Reports

1. Technological Advancements in Assessments; Support Services

General Manager, Christiane Kyte, shared with SEAC that Support Services has adapted to the way we support students and assess students. Advancements in our protocols to respond to the complex learning environments of 2020-2021 have been made, and once schools resume with in-person learning, there is no going back. Our goal is to convert the challenges of 2020-2021 into the assets of 2022 and beyond and leverage the technology that helped get through this year more efficient, effective, and responsive to students and families next year and in the coming years.

Christiane Kyte, General Manager of Clinical Services and Special Education, introduced Debra Lean, Chief of Psychology Services and Joanne Dean, Chief of Speech-Language, Hearing and Vision Services. Debra and Joanne presented on Technological Advancements in Assessments. The presentation began with a description of the components of an assessment and how assessment is a dynamic, ongoing process. Next, there was a review of Special Education and Learning Services investments in technology and resources to support Psychology and Speech-Language Pathology assessments during school closure. In addition, the benefits of using technology during the assessment process were discussed, along with information on how the digital assessments will continue to be used when in-person learning resumes. Lastly, feedback from educators, support services personnel and families/students was presented. Questions were answered following the presentation.

2. Hearing Awareness - May is Speech and Hearing Month, Joanne Dean

Joanne Dean, Chief of Speech-Language, Hearing and Vision Services, introduced Terry Brown and Sheena Vert, DPCDSB Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, for a presentation on Speech and Hearing Month awareness. The presenters shared information on how we hear and the different types of hearing loss, including otitis media and noised induced hearing loss. Strategies to protect your hearing were included, along with a brief review of hearing technology, the social/emotional implications of hearing loss, and how students access a Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at DPCDSB. Questions were answered following the presentation.

Chair, Bruno Iannicca, requested both reports, Technology Advancements and Hearing Awareness, be presented to the Trustees in September or October. Superintendent Deborah Finegan-Downey will make the arrangements through the Associate Director, David Amaral.

**C. Budget - NIL**

**D. Reports from Trustees for Receipt**

Trustee Thomas Thomas had to leave the meeting at 7:30 pm. Chair Iannicca provided the Trustee Report.

1. There will be an additional report coming out in the fall on the long-term Strategic Plan that will include feedback from a survey sent out last spring before COVID stopped everything. We anticipate things will be as close to normal in September.
2. Trustees were given a plan for school re-opening in September, with all children returning to in-school learning in September. Should the health officer decide to close a school, there will be hybrid learning for that school. There will be virtual learning offered; however, parents would have to commit for the entire year, from September to June. A report was sent out today to parents/guardians explaining the plans for September. Chair Iannicca requested the report be sent to all SEAC Members by R. Della-Spina after the meeting. Should something unforeseen come up, we are unsure what the plan will be, but for now, the board is working on safety protocols and many other things that need to be worked out for the September school opening.
3. A major conversation that was had by Trustees was the Grant for Student Needs (GSN). Funding was dissected by our staff and there were some positives and some negatives overall. We have lost some students, and this always affects our revenue which is always a growing concern. An update on the GSN will be given at our SEAC Meeting on June 9, 2021.

**E. Information/Reports from Community Associations - NIL****F. Work Group****1. Update on Input to Board Budget; Tamika Bunting**

Tamika Bunting shared the feedback for SEAC Input to Board Budget 2021-2022. She thanked members for taking the time to respond, since this is very important to the budget process for our special education students, families, and staff. Tamika briefly highlighted the additions members felt were important to include based on big ideas in the budget priorities. The final version of the SEAC Input to Board Budget 2021-2022 will be sent to members following the meeting.

**2. Update on PRO Grants; Special Education & Learning Services Team**

Tamika Bunting highlighted the last PRO Grant for the year. May is Speech and Hearing Awareness Month and so the presentation given was on bilingualism and language development presented by Monika Molnar. The presentation took place on Thursday, May 13th via Zoom, from 6:30-8:00 p.m., with 28 registered participants. The information shared was very informative and interesting. Myra Del Rosario, a representative for the Association of Bright Children (ABC), supported the evening, and we thank her for taking the time to attend.

We look forward to hosting presentations in the new year, and based on fantastic feedback received from participants throughout the year, and we look forward to presenting again in the new year. In June, a summary and highlights of the presentations done during this past year will be shared.

**G. Information and Correspondence - NIL****H. Communication - NIL****I. Questions Asked of, and by, Committee Members**

Chair Iannicca advised the Director of Education that at our Regular Board Meeting next Tuesday, he will be bringing to the table the question, How will we be conducting our business meetings in September 2021? He will be requesting that a survey go out to all meeting participants, including parents asking, Do you prefer meetings via Zoom or in-person? He asked SEAC Members to consider how they would like to have the meetings, in person or through Zoom? A survey will be coming out and will include these questions to prepare us for future meetings.

**J. Questions asked by Public - NIL****K. Future Meetings - June 9, 2021****L. Adjournment**

**Moved by** Leslie Silvestri

**THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 8:19 pm.**

**CARRIED**

# DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(TENTATIVE) MEETING DATES FOR 2021-2022

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT 7:00 PM  
THE CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE\*  
IN THE BOARD ROOM

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

Wednesday, December 8, 2021 (Advent Liturgy at 6:30 pm)

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

Wednesday, April 20, 2022

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

\*Meetings may be virtual depending on conditions of COVID pandemic.