

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA January 19, 2022

George Wedge, Chair
Easter Seals

Geoffrey Feldman, Vice Chair
Ontario Disability Coalition

Melanie Battaglia
Autism Ontario

Lori Mastrogiuseppe
Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)

Tyler Munro
Inclusion Action in Ontario
Representative

Lisa McMahon
Community Representative

Deborah Nightingale
Association for Bright Children

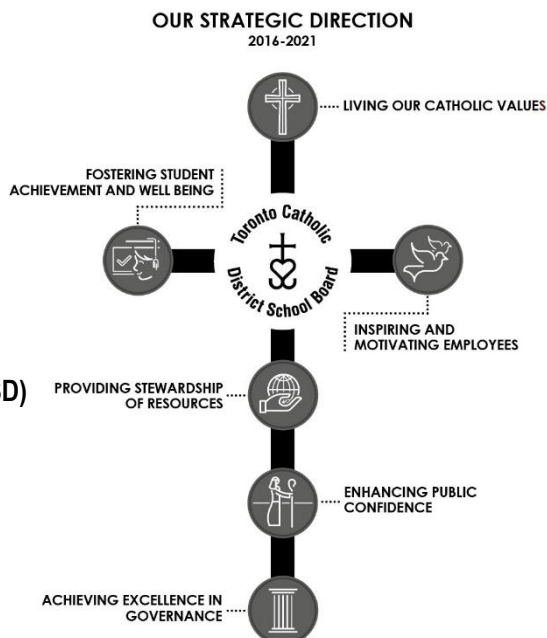
Mary Pugh
VOICE for Hearing Impaired

Michelle Da Costa
Ontario Parents Advocating
for children with Cancer (OPACC)

Wendy Layton
Community Representative

TRUSTEE MEMBERS

Angela Kennedy
Daniel Di Giorgio
Nancy Crawford



MISSION

*The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.
We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.*

VISION

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

Recording Secretary: Sophia Harris, 416-222-8282 Ext. 2293
Assistant Recording Secretary: Skeeter Hinds-Barnett, 416-222-8282 Ext. 2298
Assistant Recording Secretary: Sarah Pellegrini, 416-222-8282 Ext. 2207

Dr. Brendan Browne
Director of Education

Angela Kennedy
Chair of the Board

Terms of Reference for the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) shall have responsibility for advising on matters pertaining to the following:

- (a) Annual SEAC planning calendar;**
- (b) Annual SEAC goals and committee evaluation;**
- (c) Development and delivery of TCDSB Special Education programs and services;**
- (d) TCDSB Special Education Plan;**
- (e) Board Learning and Improvement Plan (BLIP) as it relates to Special Education programs, Services, and student achievement;**
- (f) TCDSB budget process as it relates to Special Education; and**
- (g) Public access and consultation regarding matters related to Special Education programs and services.**

SEAC shall also make recommendations to Board pertaining to these matters, in order to improve the lives of students with Special Education Needs and their families.

Land Acknowledgement

Out of our deep respect for Indigenous peoples in Canada, we acknowledge that all Toronto Catholic District School Board properties are situated upon traditional territories of the Anishinabek (a-ni-shna-bek), the Haudenosaunee (hoh-Dee-noh-Shoh-nee) Confederacy, and the Wendat peoples. We also acknowledge the land covered by Treaty 13 is held by the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and Toronto is subject to The Dish with One Spoon covenant. We also recognize the contributions and enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people in Ontario and the rest of Canada.

La Reconnaissance du Territoire

Nous témoignons du plus grand respect pour les Peuples autochtones au Canada et nous avons à cœur de souligner que tous les immeubles du Toronto Catholic District School Board sont situés sur les terres traditionnelles de la Nation Anishinabek, de la Confédération de Haudenosaunees et des Wendats. Il est également important de noter que le territoire visé par le Traité 13 est celui des Mississaugas de la Première Nation Credit et que celui de Toronto est protégé par l'accord d'« un plat à une cuillère ». Nous tenons également à rappeler la présence pérenne et l'importance des contributions des Premières Nations, des Metis et des Inuits en Ontario, et dans tout le Canada.

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AGENDA
THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PUBLIC SESSION

George Wedge, Chair

Geoffrey Feldman, Vice Chair

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

7:00 P.M.

	Pages
1. Opening Prayer	
2. Land Acknowledgement	
3. Roll Call and Apologies	
4. Approval of the Agenda	
5. Declarations of Interest	
6. Approval and Signing of the Minutes of the Meeting held December 1, 2021	1 - 14
7. Delegations	
8. Presentations	
8.a. Special Education Budget Overview - Ryan Putnam, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	15 - 20
9. Notices of Motion	
10. Consent and Review	
11. Annual Calendar Items	

- 11.a. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Annual Calendar (Draft) as of January 19, 2022 21 - 23
- 11.b. Special Education Plan Review - Update from Informal Working Group
- 12. **Reports of Officials for Information by the Board/Other Committees**
 - 12.a. Special Education Superintendent Update - January 2022 24 - 26
- 13. **Consideration of Motions for Which Previous Notice has been Given**
 - 13.a. From George Wedge, Representative of Easter Seals Ontario regarding Rules of Order and Conduct Formalization and Familiarization 27
- 14. **Unfinished Business**
- 15. **Matters Referred/Deferred to the Committee by the Board and Other Committees**
- 16. **List of Communications**
- 17. **Association Reports**
- 18. **Inquiries and Miscellaneous**
- 19. **Pending List**
 - 19.a. Pending List as at January 19, 2022 28 - 31
- 20. **Adjournment**

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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SESSION**

HELD WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021

PRESENT:

Trustees:

N. Crawford
A. Kennedy – Virtual

Non-Voting Trustees: M. de Domenico - Virtual
M. Rizzo - Virtual

External Members:

George Wedge, Chair
Melanie Battaglia – Virtual
Geoffrey Feldman, Vice-Chair - Virtual
Wendy Layton – Virtual
Lori Mastrogiuseppe – Virtual
Lisa McMahon
Tyler Munro
Deborah Nightingale - Virtual
Mary Pugh - Virtual

Staff:

V. Cocco
A. Della Mora
C. Fernandes
M. Gendron
M. Meehan
R. Macchia
J. Mirabella
D. Reid
P. Stachiw

S. Pellegrini, Acting Recording Secretary

External Guest: A. Robertson, Parliamentarian

3. Secretary calls the Meeting to Order

The Secretary, Superintendent Maria Meehan, called the meeting to order.

4. Roll Call and Apologies

Trustee Di Giorgio sent his regrets. Michelle Da Costa was absent.

4. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED by George Wedge, seconded by Tyler Munro, that the Agenda, as amended to include the addition of Items 21a) Inquiry From Tyler Munro regarding Transformational Leadership in Special Education, 21b) Inquiry From Tyler Munro regarding Attendance and Enrollment, 21c) Inquiry From Tyler Munro regarding the package Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Members received on the Special Education Plan, 21d) Inquiry From Trustee Crawford regarding a Request for a Verbal Update from the Superintendent of Special Services, 21e) Inquiry From Melanie Battaglia regarding the 2021 Record of Exclusions and 21f) Inquiry From Deborah Nightingale regarding Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) Testing, be approved.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by George Wedge, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that Item 12a) Notice of Motion From George Wedge, Representative of Easter Seals Ontario regarding Rules of Order and Conduct Formalization and Familiarization be moved to Item 16b).

On the Vote being taken, the AMENDMENT was declared

LOST

Melanie Battaglia, Geoffrey Feldman, Lisa McMahon, Lori Mastrogiuseppe, Deborah Nightingale and Mary Pugh wished to be recorded in opposition.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion, as amended, was declared

CARRIED

6. Election of Chair

The Secretary called for nominations for the position of Chair of the SEAC 2021-2022.

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Tyler Munro, that the name of George Wedge be placed in nomination.

George Wedge accepted.

There were no further nominations.

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Tyler Munro, that nominations be closed.

By unanimous consent, nominations were closed.

George Wedge was acclaimed Chair of the SEAC for 2021 - 2022.

The Secretary called for a 5-minute recess.

The virtual meeting resumed with George Wedge in the Chair and the attendance list remained unchanged.

7. Election of Vice-Chair

George Wedge called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the SEAC 2021-2022.

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Geoffrey Feldman, that the name of Deborah Nightingale be placed in nomination.

Deborah Nightingale declined the nomination.

MOVED by Nancy Crawford, seconded by Tyler Munro, that the name of Geoffrey Feldman be placed in nomination.

Geoffrey Feldman accepted.

There were no further nominations.

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Mary Pugh, that nominations be closed.

By unanimous consent, nominations were closed.

Geoffrey Feldman was acclaimed Vice-Chair of the SEAC for 2021 - 2022.

8. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

9. Approval and Signing of the Minutes

MOVED by Lori Mastrogiuseppe, seconded by Wendy Layton, that the Minutes of the Meeting held November 17, 2021 be approved.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

12) Notices of Motion

MOVED by George Wedge, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that Item 12a) be adopted as follows:

- 12a) From George Wedge, Representative of Easter Seals Ontario regarding Rules of Order and Conduct Formalization and Familiarization** that this Item be considered at the January 19, 2022 Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting:

WHEREAS: SEAC is a Standing Committee of the TCDSB;

WHEREAS: SEAC member conduct is not governed by any specific TCDSB set of bylaws;

WHEREAS: TCDSB bylaws do not specify the exact Rule's of Order to be utilized in official SEAC Public Meetings, although modified Robert's Rules of Order have been customarily used and accepted as "The Standing Committee Rules of Order"; and

WHEREAS: The Board of Trustees in Public Session have called into question the Rules of Order and Process of SEAC.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: SEAC recommend to the Board that Rules of Order and Rules of Conduct be established or adopted from existing bylaws and formalized; and

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: SEAC members, both sitting and newly nominated, be provided training in document format and/or classroom setting and/or reviewable webinar format.

13. Consent and Review

The Chair reviewed the Order Page and the following Items were held:

- 16a) Consideration of Motion from Deborah Nightingale, representative of Association for Bright Children Ontario Special Education regarding One Size Doesn't Fit All – Deborah Nightingale;
- 19b) Special Education Advisory Committee Application – Community Member (Verbal) – Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services – Trustee Crawford;
- 19c) Special Incidence Portion Funding Update (Verbal) – Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services – Trustee Crawford;
- 21a) Inquiry From Tyler Munro regarding Transformational Leadership in Special Education – Tyler Munro;
- 21b) Inquiry From Tyler Munro regarding Attendance and Enrollment – Tyler Munro;
- 21c) Inquiry From Tyler Munro regarding the package Special Education Advisory Committee Members received on the Special Education Plan – Tyler Munro;
- 21d) Inquiry From Trustee Crawford regarding a Request for a Verbal Update from the Superintendent of Special Services – Trustee Crawford;
- 21e) Inquiry From Melanie Battaglia regarding the 2021 Record of Exclusions – Melanie Battaglia; and
- 21f) Inquiry From Deborah Nightingale regarding Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) Testing – Deborah Nightingale

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that the Items not held be received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

ITEMS NOT HELD AS CAPTURED IN ABOVE MOTION

- 14a) SEAC Annual Calendar (Draft) as of December 1, 2021;
- 18a) Easter Seals: Practical Guide to the Duty to Accommodate People with Disabilities <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y32XvjWmDAQ> ;
- 19a) Letter to Minister Lecce with regard to Ontario Learning Supports and Universal Design for Learning from the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC); and
- 22a) Pending List as at December 1, 2021

16. Consideration of Motions for Which Previous Notice has been Given

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Melanie Battaglia, that Item 16a) be adopted as follows:

16a) From Deborah Nightingale, representative of Association for Bright Children Ontario Special Education regarding One Size Doesn't Fit All:

WHEREAS: SEAC recognizes and supports a very diverse variety of Special Education needs and the requirement for an appropriate variety of beneficial education options for students both identified and not identified with Special Education needs in the TCDSB;

WHEREAS: These options must be based on best practices, and education research on how to meet different students' needs, and should offer relevant options and real parent and student choice; and

WHEREAS: In a board of this very large size and diversity of needs, a variety of different options to meet different and diverse needs should be offered in appropriate classroom environments.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) SEAC recommends to the board that the TCDSB deliver a variety of appropriate education options to meet diverse Special Education needs, based on: education research; feedback from educators, parents and students on all relevant options; and advocacy by those with specific involvement and experience with those specific exceptionalities

Trustee Kennedy joined the virtual meeting at 8:10 pm.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Melanie Battaglia, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The TCDSB SEAC recommend to the Board that the TCDSB deliver a variety of appropriate education options to meet diverse Special Education needs, based on: education research; feedback from educators, parents and students on all relevant options; and advocacy by those with specific involvement and experience with students with special education needs and receiving special education programs and services.

MOVED in AMENDMENT to the AMENDMENT by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Mary Pugh, that:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The TCDSB SEAC recommend to the Board that the TCDSB deliver a variety of appropriate education options to meet diverse Special Education needs, based on:

-education research;

-feedback from educators, parents and students on all relevant options; and

-advocacy by those with specific involvement and experience with those specific exceptionalities and/or those with specific involvement and the experience with

students with special education needs and receiving special education programs and services.

Time for business expired.

The Chair called for a vote on a 15-minute extension, as per Article 12.6 of the TCDSB By-law.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

Time for business expired.

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy that time be extended by 15 minutes, as per Article 12.6 of the TCDSB's By-laws, to complete the Item.

There was no seconder.

On the Vote being taken, the Amendment to the Amendment was declared

LOST

Trustee Kennedy, Geoffrey Feldman, Wendy Layton, Lori Mastrogiuseppe, Lisa McMahon and Tyler Munro wished to be recorded in opposition.

On the Vote being taken, the Amendment was declared

CARRIED

Trustee Kennedy, Geoffrey Feldman, Wendy Layton, Lisa McMahon and Tyler Munro wished to be recorded in opposition.

On the Vote being taken, the Main Motion,as amended, was declared

CARRIED

Trustee Kennedy, Geoffrey Feldman, Wendy Layton, Lisa McMahon and Tyler Munro wished to be recorded in opposition.

19) List of Communications

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Tyler Munro, that Item 19b) be adopted as follows:

19b) Special Education Advisory Committee Application - Community Member (Verbal) - Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services received.

Mary Pugh left the virtual meeting at 9:18 pm.

Trustee Crawford left the horseshoe at 9:20 pm and returned at 9:36 pm.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

Melanie Battaglia, Lori Matrogiuseppe and Deborah Nightingale wished to be recorded in opposition.

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Tyler Munro, that Item 19c) be adopted as follows:

- 19c) Special Incidence Portion Funding Update (Verbal) - Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services received.**

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

- 21) Inquires and Miscellaneous**

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that Item 21a) be adopted as follows:

- 21a) From Tyler Munro regarding Transformational Leadership in Special Education received and referred to Staff.**

Lisa McMahon left the horseshoe at 9:35 pm.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that Item 21b) be adopted as follows:

- 21b) From Tyler Munro regarding Attendance and Enrollment received.**

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

Lisa McMahon returned to the horseshoe at 9:49 pm.

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that Item 21c) be adopted as follows:

- 21c) From Tyler Munro regarding the package Special Education Advisory Committee Members received on the Special Education Plan received.**

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Tyler Munro, that Item 21d) be adopted as follows:

- 21d) From Trustee Crawford regarding a Request for a Verbal Update from the Superintendent of Special Services received.**

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Melanie Battaglia, seconded by Tyler Munro, that Item 21e) be adopted as follows:

- 21e) From Melanie Battaglia regarding the 2021 Record of Exclusions** received and referred to Staff.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

Trustee Kennedy wished to be recorded as voted in opposition.

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that Item 21f) be adopted as follows:

- 21f) From Deborah Nightingale regarding Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) Testing** received and referred to Staff.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

21. Adjournment

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Tyler Munro, that the meeting be adjourned.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

SECRETARY

CHAIR

Special Education Budget Overview

Ryan Putnam, CPA, CA, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Presented to: Special Education Advisory Committee

Date: January 19, 2022

"I am the vine; and you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

(John 15:5)

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

(Matthew 25:40)

"The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ."

(1 Corinthians 12:12)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Foundational Documents
 - Strategic Plan
 - Board Improvement and Equity Plan
 - Special Education Plan
- Financial Considerations
 - Enrolment, Incidence, Supports
 - Special Education Envelope
 - Budget Process, Input, Timelines

FUNDING - \$135.8M

- Special Education Per Pupil Amount (SEPPA) - \$69.7M
- High Needs Amount (HNA) - \$45.4M
- Special Incidence Portion (SIP) - \$2.4M
- Specialized Equipment Amount (SEA) - \$3.6M
- Care and Treatment Facilities - \$2.9M
- Self Contained Allocation - \$7.4M
- Behaviour Expertise Amount (BEA) - \$1.1M
- System Priorities Funding (PPF) - \$2.4M
- Mental Health Funding (PPF) - \$1.0M
- COVID Funding (PPF) - \$2.1M
- Enrolment Adjustment - (\$2.2M)

EXPENDITURE - \$168.5M

- Special Education Teachers (691.4 FTE) - \$82.1M
- Educational Assistants (918.2 FTE) - \$55.5M
- Child Youth Workers (103.14 FTE) - \$7.3M
- Psychologists (30.42 FTE) - \$4.5M
- Social Workers (37.92 FTE) - \$4.4M
- Speech and Language Pathologists (24.6 FTE) - \$3.2M
- Other Professionals (29.10 FTE) - \$1.7M
- Care and Treatment Facilities (28 FTE) - \$2.9M
- Behaviour Expertise Programs (5 FTE) - \$0.9M
- Mental Health Workers (6 FTE) - \$1.0M
- Non-Staffing (SEA, Other) - \$5.6M

LOOKING AHEAD: NEXT STEPS

- Budget Forecast (March)
- Ministry Funding (April)
- Enrolment, Staffing (March to June)
- Stakeholder Input (March, April)
- Senior Team Discussions (ongoing)
- Quarterly Reports (Feb, May, Sept)
- Preliminary Estimates (May)
- Final Document (June)

SEAC Annual Calendar

Month	Annual Activities/Topics	Board Events/Deadlines
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of SEAC Calendar - S.O. Updates - Association Reports (if any) - Review TCDSB Accessibility Plan (September 2022) - Develop or review SEAC annual Agenda/Goals - Annual Safe Schools Report - Special Education Plan Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FASD Awareness Day – September 9
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of SEAC Calendar - S.O. Updates - Association Reports (if any) - Special Education Plan Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Autism Awareness (Canada) - Child Abuse Prevention Awareness - Learning Disabilities Awareness - World Mental Health Day (October 10) - EQAO Preliminary Results for Gr. 3 and 6 and OSSLT - Reports on Student Numbers of Elementary and Secondary School Students to be submitted to the Ministry of Education - Engagement and Governance Supports Discussion Guide
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of SEAC Calendar - S.O. Updates - Association Reports (if any) - AFSS Report: Exceptionality Frameworks–Goals & Outcomes, EQAO Student Achievement Data (for various exceptionalities as appropriate) - Engagement and Governance Supports Discussion - Professional Learning Plan - Special Education Fair - Special Education Plan Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Down Syndrome Awareness (first week) - EQAO Results for Gr. 3, 6, 9 (math), and Gr. 10 (OSSLT) - Engagement and Governance Supports Discussion Guide - ONSIS report on identified students - Year End for School Board Financial Statements - Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP)
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of SEAC Calendar - S.O. Updates - Association Reports (if any) - SEAC Elections (Inaugural) - SEAC Elections: Chair & vice-Chair (Annual) - SEAC Mass and Social 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International Day of Persons with Disabilities (December 3) - Human Rights Day (December 10) - Independent review of assessment and reporting

SEAC Annual Calendar

January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of Draft SEAC Calendar - S.O. Updates - Association Reports (if any) - Review of Policy: S.P.01 Special Education Programs and Services (next review January 2023) - Reviews of Policy: A.23 Special Education Advisory Committee (next review January 2024) - Priority Budget Setting Discussion (effective January 2020) - Special Education Plan Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bell Let's Talk Day (late January) - Grade 9 EQAO Testing takes place in Secondary Schools - Long Term Accommodation Program Plan (ongoing)
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of SEAC Calendar - S.O. Updates - Association Reports (if any) - Special Education Plan Review - Annual Accessibility Report 2021 - Multi-year Accessibility Plan/AODA-Updates - Mental Health Annual Report 2020-2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Psychology Awareness Month - New term begins in Secondary semestered Schools - Report Cards are distributed (Elementary and Secondary) - Parent-Teacher Conferences
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of SEAC Calendar - S.O. Updates - Association Reports (if any) - Safe Schools Committee Update - Mental Health Advisory Council Update - Budget Approval Updates - Special Education Plan Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Easter Seals Awareness Month - World Down Syndrome Day – March 21 - National Social Work Week (1st week) - CYW & EA Appreciation Day (first Monday) - Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of SEAC Calendar - S.O. Updates - Association Reports (if any) - Financial Report as at January, 2021 (GSNs) - Graduation Statistics for Students with Special Education Needs Update - March 31st Special Education student count - Update to Special Education Programs for 2021-2022 - Budget Approval Updates - Special Education Plan Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Autism Awareness Day – April 2 - ONSIS report on identified students
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of SEAC Calendar - S.O. Updates - Association Reports (if any) - Student Grants 2021-2022 - PRO Grants Application Update - Budget Approval Updates - Special Education Plan Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children's Mental Health Week (first week) - Speech, Language & Hearing Awareness - Megan's Walk - Budget Consultation - EQAO Assessment

SEAC Annual Calendar

June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Review of SEAC Calendar</i> - <i>S.O. Updates</i> - <i>Association Reports (if any)</i> - <i>Budget approval update</i> - <i>Status of PRO Grant application</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>World Sickle Cell Day – June 19</i> - <i>National Deaf Blind Awareness</i> - <i>EQAO Grade 3 and 6 Testing (not administered for June 2020)</i>
July		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>School Board Submits to the Ministry a balanced Budget for the following year</i> - <i>Special Education Report Checklist submitted to the Ministry of Education</i>
August		

DRAFT



Special Education Superintendent Update

January 2022



Upcoming events:

Transition Planning Workshop for Parents of Children with Autism in Grades 7 and 8 in a Multiple Exceptionalities/Developmental Disability (ME/DD) Intensive Support Program (ISP)
Tentative date: February 22nd

Transition Planning Workshop for Parents of Children with Autism in Grades 7 and 8 on the Credit Earning Pathway
Tentative date: February 24th



On December 3rd, the Social Work Department was engaged in continued equity work supported by the *Jesuit Forum for Social Faith and Justice*. Principles of Indigenous teaching applicable to all groups will continue to inform our practice.



Throughout the holiday season, and ongoing, the Social Work Department distributed gifts and donations to the neediest families with the support of generous donors and *The Angel Foundation for Learning*.

We continue to serve the system with a variety of supports including counselling, crisis response, prevention and early intervention and consultation to all staff despite school closures.



The TCDSB has received Ministry funding to offer **Enhanced Autism Training** through the Geneva Centre. This is an opportunity for staff to take one of two courses, *Charting a Path to Success in Your Classroom*, or *Registered Behaviour Training (RBT) 40-hr Online Training Course*.



The Speech-Language Pathology department hosted a half-day professional development presentation on November 19, 2021 to 40 Educational Assistants working with students who use **Augmentative & Alternative Communication (AAC)**, specifically picture boards, Flip n' Talks, iPads with communication apps in the classroom. The focus was on how to model core language with these students to increase their comprehension and self-expression in class.

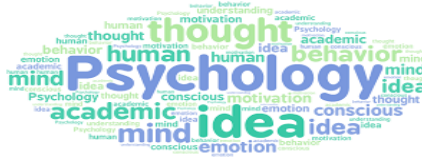


SPECIAL SERVICES

Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Audiology provided an in-service on December 10, 2021 to the Deaf/Hard of Hearing (D/HH) itinerant Teachers on new updates to hearing equipment to help support student needs.

The department facilitated the distribution of clear window PPE medical grade *Humasks* to all D/HH itinerant teachers and students on their caseloads and their classroom teachers.



For this month's Pastoral Day of Care, Dr. Saeid Chavoshi from our Psychology Department presented ***Dancing in the storm: Being there for our students and ourselves during a global pandemic***. The presentation focused on the prominent role of technology, digital media, and remote education during the pandemic, and its impact on student learning and wellbeing, as well as the wellbeing of educators and front-line education staff.

The Psychology Department continues to serve students, families and the school community. This includes in-person psychoeducational assessments, counselling and mental health supports, school team consultation, and psychology education for school staff and community.



The Mental Health Team promoted mental health activities and resources throughout the system with the following activities:

- Provided a workshop on ***How to Create a Mentally-Healthy Classroom*** to 14 New Teachers being hired at the TCDSB.
- Facilitated Staff Well-Being workshop for the Pastoral Day of Care for about 128 secondary school administrators and Chaplains. This session provided information and strategies regarding staff wellbeing; provide stress management strategies to staff; classroom resources to support student well-being: ***Fostering our Own Resiliency During COVID-19***.
- Facilitated a workshop to 22 social work and psychology staff members on ***Brief Digital Interventions*** to better support students' mental health.
- Launched the ***January Wellness Calendar*** providing classroom ready Social Emotional Learning activities for easy implementation in the classroom to all School Administrators for distribution to educators.
- Provided the ***LivingWorks START Suicide Response*** training (asynchronous) plus live session on TCDSB Suicide Intervention Guidelines to 25 elementary support staff.
- Through ***Strong Minds Strong Kids***, provided a ***Masterclass in Stress Management*** focusing on stress management strategies to about 100 elementary support staff.
- Distributed a ***Holiday Wellness Guide*** providing well-being strategies and community resources to parents.



SPECIAL SERVICES



TCDSB Holiday Wellness Guide 2021



MAKE ROOM FOR EMOTIONS

We often have expectations of a holiday season filled with smiles and laughter. But let's face it, things aren't always merry and bright. Some people experience more anxiety, stress, and frustration at this time of year. **Take time to check in with yourself and with your children/youth.**

Allow yourself (and them) to feel a range of emotions. When we acknowledge and name our feelings it helps calm us. We can help our children with this by using statements such as "I see you are frustrated" or "You seem worried, do you want to talk about it?"



JUST BREATHE



Deep breathing really works! It calms our bodies and our minds, making emotions feel less intense. Once we are calm we are able to think more clearly and problem solve. Check out [this resource](#) for family-friendly activities that teach us important coping skills like breathing. Teens may wish to check out the [Youth Mental Health Resource Hub](#) or [Anxiety Canada](#) for more stress management ideas. **Remember that spending time in prayer can also help calm our minds and ease our worries.**



MAINTAIN ROUTINE



Routine allows us to predict what's coming next which can give us a sense of control and help ease anxiety. **Be sure to build in time for self-care.** Check out these tip sheets: [Take Care of Yourself](#); [Self-Care 101 for Youth](#).



MAKE TIME FOR PLAY



At any age, play can reduce stress and help us cope with big emotions. **Holidays can be hectic, but try to schedule some unstructured downtime to allow for free play to occur.** While individuals can engage in play solo, it's also a great opportunity to connect. [Click here](#) for inspiration.



NOTICE MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS



The following resources can help you notice potential concerns:

- [Noticing Mental Health Concerns for Your Child](#)
- [Quick Reference for Youth Suicide Prevention](#)



REACH OUT



- **School mental health supports** are available during school hours through your child's teacher or administrator.
- **Outside of school hours or during holidays, you or your child can contact community resources:**
 - **Kids Help Phone:** 24/7 support in English, French, or Arabic. Call 1-800-668-6868 or text CONNECT to 686868 ANYTIME.
 - **What's Up Walkin:** Free Virtual Mental Health Counselling. Call 1-866-585-6486 Mon to Sat, check website for hours.
 - **Multilingual Distress Line:** Support available in English, Cantonese, Mandarin, Portuguese, Spanish, Hindi, Punjabi, and Urdu. Call 905-459-7777. Check website for hours.

In case of emergency: call 911 and ask for mental health response team, or attend your local hospital emergency rm.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM TCDSB MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES



MARIE-JOSÉE GENDRON PHD, C.PSYCH
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To: Special Education Advisory Committee

From: George Wedge, Representative for Easter Seals Ontario

Consideration of Motion: Rules of Order & Conduct Formalization & Familiarization

MOVED BY: George Wedge

WHEREAS: SEAC is a Standing Committee of the TCDSB;

WHEREAS: SEAC member conduct is not governed by any specific TCDSB set of bylaws;

WHEREAS: TCDSB bylaws do not specify the exact Rule's of Order to be utilized in official SEAC Public Meetings, although modified Robert's Rules of Order have been customarily used and accepted as "The Standing Committee Rules of Order"; and

WHEREAS: The Board of Trustees in Public Session have called into question the Rules of Order and Process of SEAC.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: SEAC recommend to Board that Rules of Order and Rules of Conduct be established or adopted from existing bylaws and formalized; and

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: SEAC members, both sitting and newly nominated be provided training in document format and/or classroom setting and/or reviewable webinar format.

George Wedge
Past Chair
Member representing Easter Seals Ontario

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PENDING LIST TO JANUARY 19, 2022**

#	Date Requested & Committee/Board	Report Due Date	Destination of Report Committee/Board	Subject	Delegated To
1	March 27, 2019 SEAC	TBC	Regular Board	<p>That the Board direct staff to provide a report with respect to the following Items and report back to Board:</p> <p>*Whether the exclusions listed were documented as "safety" exclusions or "disciplinary" exclusions, in light of page 5 of the Report, excerpted below:</p> <p><i>"The Annual Safe School Report is directly linked to Safe School Legislation. However, Safety Exclusions under 265 (1)m of the Education Act are not tracked by the Safe School department as they are not associated with Safe Schools legislation; nor is there any requirement for the Board to report those to the Ministry of Education. Safety exclusions are not considered disciplinary and also include Police exclusions which school Principals are mandated to adhere to until an active police investigation is complete. In any event, there is an expectation that the student will return to a school of the TCDSB. Exclusions are thus not a metric that is linked to the Safe</i></p>	Superintendent of Special Services

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PENDING LIST TO JANUARY 19, 2022**

			<p><i>Schools Annual Report. Instead, Safety Exclusions deal with programming alternatives that support a successful academic and social-emotional transition back to a school." (p. 5);</i></p> <p>*Whether the students with the listed exclusions had a history of discipline issues prior to the exclusion, including but not limited to warnings, suspensions and expulsions;</p> <p>*The subcategory of students listed as excluded from December 2013 to and including February 2016 as follows: (i) students not in receipt of Special Education services; (ii) students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP); (iii) by exceptionality (using the Ministry's 14 categories of exceptionalities); and (iv) whether the exclusion was due to police direction/court order or the principal's discretion;</p> <p>*Whether the parents/guardians of the students listed as excluded were provided with a Written Appeal Hearing Policy and/or procedure (the "Policy") regarding the Appeal Hearing Information identified</p>	
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**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PENDING LIST TO JANUARY 19, 2022**

				<p>in the chart, and if so (i) to provide a copy of the Policy to SEAC; and (ii) to advise whether the Policy is publicly available on the school Board's website and, if so, to provide a copy of the web page;</p> <p>*The number of students excluded from March 2016 up to and including December 2018, subcategorized as follows: (i) students not in receipt of Special Education services; (ii) students with an IEP; (iii) by exceptionality (using the Ministry's 14 categories of exceptionalities); (iv) whether the exclusion was due to police direction/court order or the principal's discretion; and (v) whether the excluded students had a history of discipline issues prior to the exclusion, including but not limited to warnings, suspensions and expulsions;</p> <p>*Whether the TCDSB has a written policy and/or procedure on when and for how long the Board and/or principal may exclude a student under Section 265(1)(m) of the Education Act, and, if so, (i) to provide a copy of the Policy to SEAC; and (ii) to advise whether the Policy is publicly available on the school Board's website</p>	
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**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PENDING LIST TO JANUARY 19, 2022**

				<p>and, if so, to provide a copy of the web page;</p> <p>*How a teacher marks a student absent for attendance when the student has been excluded from school for all or part of a school day; and</p> <p>*Where and with what service provider(s) an excluded student continues to receive access to their education and uninterrupted learning during the period of exclusion and for how long, i.e. how many hours of academic instruction per day.</p> <p><i>Motion recommended at March 27, 2019 SEAC meeting; carried at April 24, 2019 Board meeting.</i></p>	
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