

To: Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

From: Informal Working Group to review the TCDSB Special Education Plan

Date: October 14, 2020

Subject: Report from Informal Working Group's Virtual meeting of October 9, 2020

The informal working group (Members: Nancy Crawford, Lori Mastrogiuseppe, Tyler Munro, and Deborah Nightingale) along with Superintendent Maria Meehan met via Zoom on October 9, 2020 to discuss the review of the Special Education Plan.

The informal working group would like to report to SEAC on the content of our discussions during the meeting of October 9, 2020:

1. Superintendent Meehan explained to the Working Group that it is the annual corporate responsibility of the Director of Education to report to the Ministry of Education on the Special Education Plan. This responsibility is in large part delegated to the Superintendent of Special Services. The role of SEAC is to help facilitate input to the Special Education Plan.
2. The Working Group members gave an overview to Superintendent Meehan of our concerns about the current Special Education Plan. We spoke about:
 - a. The size of the Plan
 - b. Matters of accessibility such as acronyms, language, page numbers, headers and footers
 - c. How TCDSB meets the required standards specified in regulation 306 of the Education Act.
3. Superintendent Meehan would like the Working Group to focus on three areas:
 - a. Typos
 - b. Identify required items missing from the Special Education Plan
 - c. Identify language that is unclear
 - d. Bring larger picture issues to the full SEAC committee for discussion and recommendation.
4. Using Google Docs editing features is the preferred method of recording suggested comments. The Google Docs will be used in SEAC meetings to show the suggested changes and subsequently submitted to Staff to inform their work of reviewing the Plan.

Discussion Point:

1. What would SEAC prefer throughout the document? Full explanation of a program, e.g., Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) process in the Spec Ed Plan, or an overview of the IPRC with a link to the Parent Guide where the full information is available.