

OUR 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.*

OUR VISION

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



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

HELD WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

PRESENT:

Trustees:

N. Crawford, Chair – In Person
D. Di Giorgio
A. Kennedy

External Members:

George Wedge, Vice Chair
Melanie Battaglia
Lori Mastrogiuseppe
Tyler Munro
Deborah Nightingale
Mary Pugh

Staff:

B. Browne
D. Koenig
M. Meehan
V. Cocco
M. Gendron
R. Macchia
J. Mirabella
F. Piddisi
D. Reid
P. Stachiw

S. Pellegrini, Acting Recording Secretary
S. Hinds-Barnett, Assistant Recording Secretary

2. Call to Order

Maria Meehan and Dr. Brendan Browne were introduced as the new Superintendent of Special Services and Director of Education respectively

2. Roll Call & Apologies

Glenn Webster was absent.

3. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED by Melanie Battaglia, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that the Agenda, as amended to include the Addendum; and that Items 14h) Inquiry from Sandra Mastronardi regarding Student Trustee Report; 14i) Consideration of Motion from Sandra Mastronardi regarding Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) and Accessibility; and 16a) Autism Ontario 2020 Pre-Budget Consultation Submission be reordered after Item 6c) SEAC Annual Calendar as of March 2020, be approved.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

4. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

5. Approval and Signing of the Minutes

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Mary Pugh, that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held June 10, 2020 be approved.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

6. Annual Calendar Items

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by George Wedge, that Item 6a) be adopted as follows:

- 6a) SEAC Annual Calendar as of September 2020** that the SEAC Annual Calendar begin with September each year.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by George Wedge, that Item 6b) be adopted as follows:

- 6b) Special Education Plan Review: The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)** that the changes to the Special Education Plan be referred to Staff for their review.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

- 6c) SEAC Annual Calendar as of March 2020**

Superintendent Meehan indicated that this item was dealt with during Item 6a) SEAC Annual Calendar as of September 2020.

14. Matters Referred/Deferred to the Committee by the Board and Other Committees

MOVED by Melanie Battaglia, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 14h) be adopted as follows:

- 14h) Inquiry from Sandra Mastronardi regarding Student Trustee Report** that Staff extend an invitation to Student Trustees to present their 2020/21 Goals Report at the October 14, 2020 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Melanie Battaglia, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that Item 14i) be adopted as follows:

- 14i) Consideration of Motion from Sandra Mastronardi regarding Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) and Accessibility** that the Item be tabled.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

16. Association Reports

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

- 16a) Autism Ontario 2020 Pre-Budget Consultation Submission** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

9. Reports of Officials for Information by the Board/Other Committees

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by George Wedge, that Item 9a) be adopted as follows:

- 9a) Superintendent Update - September** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 9b) be adopted as follows:

- 9b) Superintendent Update - March** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Lori Mastrogiuseppe, that Item 9c) be adopted as follows:

- 9c) Safe School Report 2019-2020** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 9d) be adopted as follows:

- 9d) Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math (STEAM) and Students with an Individualized Education Plan** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 9e) be adopted as follows:

- 9e) Safe Schools Committee** received.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Tyler Munro continue to be the SEAC Representative on the Safe Schools Advisory Committee.

On the Vote being taken, the AMENDMENT was declared

CARRIED

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

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by George Wedge, that Item 9f) be adopted as follows:

9f) Mental Health Committee received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by George Wedge, seconded by Mary Pugh, that Item 9g) be adopted as follows:

9g) Special Education Superintendent Update - February received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

10. Consideration of Motions for which Previous Notice has been Given

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 10a) be adopted as follows:

10a) From Trustee Angela Kennedy regarding Operational Procedures and Protocol for Appealing Student Exclusions as clearly outlined in the Education Act:

WHEREAS: The operational procedures and protocol for appealing student exclusions as clearly outlined in the *Education Act*;

WHEREAS: The operational procedures and protocol for appealing are clearly understood and acted on by the school administrators;

WHEREAS: Parents who are faced with the question “How do I appeal an exclusion?” would only know the protocol if their own child was involved;

WHEREAS: Most parents are not reading the *Education Act* to get information regarding a policy or protocol that would affect their child; and

WHEREAS: Parents would likely go to the TCDSB website and search for a policy and/or form for information.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: SEAC recommend to the Board to develop and draft a policy with protocol and procedures outlining the appeal process for Exclusion Appeals.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Tyler Munro, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that “*the use of exclusions*” be added after “outlining” (paragraph 6, line 2).

On the Vote being taken, the AMENDMENT was declared

CARRIED

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

CARRIED

12. Consent and Review

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

13a) Consideration of Motion from Tyler Munro regarding Individual Education Plan Completion Rate – Report Request – Tyler Munro;

14a) Letter of Interest to Serve as Special Education Advisory Committee Member from Hilary Quinn – Trustee Kennedy;

14c) New Policy on Age-Appropriate Placement – Curriculum and Program Supports – Tyler Munro

14f) Set SEAC Goals for this Year (From the Draft Annual Calendar) – Deborah Nightingale;

14g) Review of Policy: Special Education Programs and Services (S.P.01) – Tyler Munro;

14j) Inquiry from Tyler Munro regarding Special Education Fair – Tyler Munro;

14k) Inquiry from Tyler Munro regarding Email Blasts – Tyler Munro;

17a) Letter of Resignation from Lori Ciccolini as Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Community Representative – Deborah Nightingale; and

18a) Pending List as at September 16, 2020 – Tyler Munro

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Trustee Di Giorgio, that all Items not held be received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

ITEMS NOT HELD AS CAPTURED IN ABOVE MOTION

14b) Graduation Statistics for Students with Special Needs;

14d) Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Regional Grant 2019-2020;

14e) Communication from Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board;

15a) Greater Essex County District School Board Letter to Minister of Education, February 20, 2020;

17b) SEAC Email Requirements and Member Contact Information;

18b) Pending List as at March 25, 2020; and

18c) Pending List as at February 19, 2020

The Chair declared a 5-minute recess.

The meeting resumed with Trustee Crawford in the Chair.

Trustees: N. Crawford, Chair – In Person
D. Di Giorgio
A. Kennedy

External George Wedge, Vice Chair

Members: Lori Mastrogiuseppe
Tyler Munro
Deborah Nightingale
Mary Pugh

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 13a) be adopted as follows:

13a) Consideration of Motion from Tyler Munro regarding Individual Education Plan Completion Rate – Report Request:

WHEREAS: The mission of the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) is to be an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ;

WHEREAS: Special needs students without an Individual Education Plan (IEP) detailing their needed accommodations will not meet their potential at school, may become disruptive at school and become alienated;

WHEREAS: The Auditor General of Ontario in their 2008 report raised

concerns about IEP not being completed in a timely manner. (Section 4.14. Recommendation 9, page 392);

WHEREAS: The Ministry of Education’s IEP Resource Guide states: “The 30-day requirement for completion of an IEP applies to the IEPs of all students, including those who have not been formally identified as exceptional but who receive a special education program and/or service.” (pg. 42); and

WHEREAS: The TCDSB does not provide a public report to SEAC or the Board on how many IEPs are to be created within 30 school days or the beginning of the school year or term/semester and the number and percent of IEPs completed within the 30-school day requirement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: SEAC recommend to the Board a report be prepared for counting the number of IEPs due at the beginning of a school year or term/semester and the number and percent of completed IEPs that were sent to parents on or before the 30-school day period has passed.

The report to Include IEPs due no earlier than the beginning of the 2020/21 school year;

The report to accumulate new reporting periods as the 30-school day period Expires;

The report should not include more than the previous five school years of Reporting;

The report to separate Elementary and Secondary results with a boardwide cumulative result; and

The report to be included with the Annual Accountability Framework Report.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

14. Matters Referred/Deferred to the Committee by the Board and Other Committees

MOVED by George Wedge, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 14a) be adopted as follows:

- 14a) Letter of Interest to Serve as Special Education Advisory Committee Member from Hilary Quinn** that SEAC recommend to Board that the letter of interest from Hilary Quinn to serve as Special Education Advisory Committee member be accepted.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Lori Mastrogiuseppe, that Item 14c) be adopted as follows:

- 14c) New Policy on Age-Appropriate Placement – Curriculum and Program Supports** that SEAC recommend to Board that SEAC is in favour of the Policy and Operational Procedures on the Policy on Age-Appropriate Placement: Curriculum/Program Supports, provided in Report Appendix A, and the accompanying TCDSB Operational Procedures, provided in Report Appendix B.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Tyler Munro, that Item 14f) be adopted as follows:

14f) Set SEAC Goals for this Year (from the Draft Annual Calendar) that SEAC recommend to the Board:

1. That a budget presentation be made as soon as possible to SEAC on the Special Education budget;
2. That SEAC review, provide feedback and make recommendations about the Special Education Plan; and
3. That membership be encouraged on the SEAC Committee.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that Item 14g) be adopted as follows:

14g) Review of Policy: Special Education Programs and Services (S.P.01) that SEAC recommend to Board that the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Ontario Human Rights Commission's Policy on Accessible Education for Students with Disabilities be included in the cross-references section.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by George Wedge, that SEAC recommend to Board that *in the most inclusive way possible* be added after students (Page 76, Line 2).

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that SEAC recommend to Board that the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) be included in the cross-references section as well.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by George Wedge, that Item 14j) be adopted as follows:

- 14j) Inquiry from Tyler Munro regarding Special Education Fair** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by George Wedge, that Item 14k) be adopted as follows:

- 14k) Inquiry from Tyler Munro regarding Email Blasts** received and referred to Staff.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

Inquiries and Miscellaneous

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by George Wedge, that Item 17a) be adopted as follows:

- 17a) Letter of Resignation from Lori Ciccolini as a Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Community Representative received.**

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

18. Pending List

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by George Wedge, that Item 18a) be adopted as follows:

- 18a) Pending List as at September 16, 2020 received.**

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

19. Adjournment

MOVED by George Wedge, seconded by Tyler Munro, that the meeting be adjourned.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

SECRETARY

CHAIR