

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

**HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2022**

**PRESENT:**

**Trustees:**

N. Crawford  
D. Di Giorgio – Virtual  
A. Kennedy – Virtual

**Non-Voting  
Trustee:**

M. Rizzo– Virtual

**External Members:**

George Wedge, Chair  
M. Battaglia – Virtual  
W. Layton - Virtual  
Lisa McMahon  
Deborah Nightingale - Virtual  
Mary Pugh – Virtual

**Staff:**

C. Fernandes  
R. Putnam  
A. Coke  
V. Cocco  
R. Macchia  
M. Meehan

J. Mirabella  
D. Reid  
P. Stachiw

S. Pellegrini, Acting Recording Secretary

**External Guest:** A. Robertson, Parliamentarian

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. In the absence of quorum, the Chair called for a 10 minute recess.

### **3. Roll Call and Apologies**

Geoffrey Feldman, Lori Mastrogiuseppe and Tyler Munro sent their regrets. Michelle Da Costa was absent.

### **4. Approval of the Agenda**

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that the Agenda, be approved.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Melanie Battaglia, that the following Items be added to the agenda:

#### **Inquiries:**

18b) From Deborah Nightingale regarding Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) testing for all grade 4 students;

18c) From Deborah Nightingale regarding Grade 5 students who have not yet written the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) test; and

18d) From Deborah Nightingale regarding Open Houses for Grades 5-8 GiftedWithdrawal Programs and Grade 6-8 Gifted Congregated programs.

On the Vote being taken, the AMENDMENT was declared

CARRIED

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

CARRIED

**5. Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

**6. Approval and Signing of the Minutes**

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Wendy Layton, that the Minutes of the Meeting held March 9, 2022 be approved.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

## **Presentations**

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that Item 8a) be adopted as follows:

- 8a) Toronto Catholic District School Board Website Re-Development Project Stakeholder Engagement Survey – Paolo Ho, Website Supervisor** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Wendy Layton, that Item 8b) be adopted as follows:

- 8b) 2022-23 Budget Framework and Stakeholder Consultation Plan - Ryan Putnam, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

## **10. Consent and Review**

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

- 11a) Special Education Plan Review from SEAC Informal Working Group – Trustee Crawford;
- 11b) Special Education Student Count as of March 31 (Verbal) - Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services – Deborah Nightingale;
- 11c) Special Education Programs for 2022-2023 Update (Verbal) - Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services – Trustee Crawford;
- 11d) Graduation Statistics for Students with Special Education Needs 2020-2021 (Verbal) - Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services – Deborah Nightingale;
- 12a) Special Education Superintendent Update - April 2022 – Trustee Crawford;
- 12b) Response to Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Motion Regarding Clear Masks – Wendy Layton;
- 12c) Recommendation on Review of Policy A.23 (Verbal) - Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services – Trustee Crawford;
- 12d) Update on Motion: Rules of Order and Conduct Formalization and Familiarization (Verbal) - Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services – Trustee Crawford;
- 13a) Consideration of Motion From the Special Education Plan Review Informal Working Group regarding Special Education Plan Review Process: Staff Revisions – Trustee Crawford
- 13b) Consideration of Motion From Melanie Battaglia regarding Draft Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) No – 81 – Melanie Battaglia;

- 16a) Communication: Draft Protocol: Anti-Sex Trafficking Survey for Special Education Advisory Committee Input (Verbal) - Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services – Wendy Layton;
- 18a) Inquiry From Trustee Crawford regarding Request for New Members to Join the Special Education Plan Informal Working Group – Trustee Crawford;
- 18b) Inquiry From Deborah Nightingale regarding Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) testing for all grade 4 students – Deborah Nightingale;
- 18c) Inquiry From Deborah Nightingale regarding Grade 5 students who have not yet written the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) test – Deborah Nightingale; and
- 18d) Inquiry From Deborah Nightingale regarding Open Houses for Grades 5-8 Gifted Withdrawal programs and Grade 6-8 Gifted Congregated Programs – Deborah Nightingale.

Trustee Di Giorgio joined the virtual meeting at 8:20 p.m.

MOVED by Mary Pugh, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that the Item not held be received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

**ITEM NOT HELD AS CAPTURED IN ABOVE MOTION**

- 11e) Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Annual Calendar (Draft) as of April 6, 2022.

**11. Annual Calendar Items**

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Mary Pugh, that Item 11a) be adopted as follows:

- 11a) Special Education Plan Review from SEAC Informal Working Group** Received and referred to Staff.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that Item 11b) be adopted as follows:

- 11b) Special Education Student Count as of March 31 (Verbal) – Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 11c) be adopted as follows:

- 11c) Special Education Programs for 2022-2023 Update (Verbal) – Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that Item 11d) be adopted as follows:

- 11d) Graduation Statistics for Students with Special Education Needs 2020-2021 (Verbal) – Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

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



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

**12a) Special Education Superintendent Update – April 2022** received.

Trustee Di Giorgio left the virtual meeting at 8:50 p.m.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Wendy Layton, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 12b) be adopted as follows:

**12b) Response to Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Motion Regarding Clear Masks** that the Item be deferred to the May 11, 2022 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 12c) be adopted as follows:

**12c) Recommendation on Review of Policy A.23 (Verbal) – Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Mary Pugh, that Item 12d) be adopted as follows:

- 12d) Update on Motion: Rules of Order and Conduct Formalization and Familiarization (Verbal) – Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

**13. Consideration of Motions for which previous notice was given**

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

- 13a) From the Special Education Plan Review Informal Working Group regarding Special Education Plan Review Process: Staff Revisions**

**WHEREAS:** The Education Act, Regulation 464/97, requires SEAC to review the Board’s Spec Ed Plan each year and make recommendations to the Board for improvements and updates;

**WHEREAS:** SEAC formed an informal working group in 2020 to assist SEAC in this review;

**WHEREAS:** The informal working group did a comprehensive review of the TCDSB Spec Ed Plan throughout 2020-2021 reporting regularly to SEAC and bringing many recommendations to SEAC which were adopted and recommended to Board and approved by Board for consideration by Special Services Staff;

**WHEREAS:** Special Services Superintendent and Staff made changes and updates and reported same to the Ministry of Education for the July 31, 2021 deadline; and

**WHEREAS:** For the 2021-2022 review of the Spec Ed Plan, the informal working group would be aided by information from Staff on what was changed in the Plan for the July 31, 2021 submission to the Ministry of Education.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** SEAC recommends to the Board of Trustees as follows,

1. On a go forward basis, Staff provide in writing to SEAC by October of each year, a summary of all revisions made to the Spec Ed Plan for the previous July submission to the Ministry of Education; and
2. These revisions be accompanied by feedback that clearly identifies:
  - which SEAC recommendations to change the Spec Ed Plan have been implemented; and
  - which SEAC recommendations have not been accepted with a brief description of the reasons why.

Trustee Kennedy joined the virtual meeting at 9:11 p.m.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Melanie Battaglia, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 13b) be adopted as follows:

- 13b) From Melanie Battaglia regarding Draft Policy Program Memorandum (PPM) No - 81** that the Item be deferred to the May 11, 2022 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

**16. List of Communications**

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

- 16a) Draft Protocol: Anti-Sex Trafficking Survey for Special Education Advisory Committee Input (Verbal) - Maria Meehan, Superintendent of Special Services** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

**18. Inquiries and Miscellaneous**

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 18a) be adopted as follows:

- 18a) Inquiry From Trustee Crawford regarding Request for New Members to Join the Special Education Plan Informal Working Group** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that Item 18b) be adopted as follows:

- 18b) Inquiry From Deborah Nightingale regarding Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) testing for all grade 4 students** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that Item 18c) be adopted as follows:

- 18c) Inquiry From Deborah Nightingale regarding Grade 5 students who have not yet written the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) test received.**

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that Item 18d) be adopted as follows:

- 18d) Inquiry From Deborah Nightingale regarding open houses for Grades 5-8 Gifted Withdrawal programs and Grade 6-8 Gifted Congregated programs received.**

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

**21. Adjournment**

MOVED by Mary Pugh, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that the meeting be adjourned.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

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SECRETARY

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CHAIR