

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, MAY 10, 2023

PRESENT:

Trustees:

F. D'Amico
A. Kennedy - Virtual

External Members:

G. Wedge, Chair
G. Feldman, Vice-Chair
R. De Belchior
L. McMahan - Virtual
T. Munro
D. Nightingale

Staff:

A. Della Mora
R. Putnam
C. Fernandes
M. Meehan
M. Caccamo
V. Cocco
M. Gendron
P. Klim-Conforti
R. Macchia
D. Reid
P. Stachiw

S. Hinds-Barnett, Acting Recording Secretary
S. Stephenson (Assistant Recording Secretary)

External Guest:

Alasdair Robertson (Parliamentarian)

3. **Roll Call and Apologies**

Apologies were extended on behalf of Melanie Battaglia and Lori Mastrogiuseppe. Trustee Rizzo and Mary Pugh were absent.

4. **Approval of the Agenda**

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by Richelle de Belchior, that the Agenda, as amended to include the Addendum and the following Items, be approved.

Inquiries from Tyler Munro regarding:

18a) What are the expectations of teaching Staff to apply Differentiated Instruction and Universal Design for Learning when planning and conducting lessons? How much training do Staff receive to develop these skills? Have all teaching Staff been trained? If not, is there a plan to accomplish this and how far along is it? How is this monitored;

18b) The College of Psychologists of Ontario (CPO) Standards require that “Members working as employees must make best efforts to ensure that their work setting adheres to the *Standards of Professional Conduct (2017)* in the planning, delivery, supervision and billing practices of all psychological services provided”. What does the TCDSB’s Psychology department consider an appropriate setting when delivering services and meeting with parents to discuss their child? Would there be exceptions to this? Please elaborate on exceptions if any;

18c) When Principals are preparing Staff assignments for the next school year, how much emphasis is placed on considering the teacher qualifications (Additional Qualification courses etc...) or other experience when the Principal knows there will be a student with a disability in the class; and

Inquiry from Deborah Nightingale regarding:

18d) Gifted Programs for 2023-24.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion, was declared

CARRIED

5. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

6. Approval and Signing of the Minutes

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Geoffrey Feldman, that the Minutes of the Meeting held April 12, 2023 be approved.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

8. Presentations

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Richelle de Belchior, that Item 8a) be adopted as follows:

- 8a) Leaping into Kindergarten – V. Cocco, Chief Social Worker, M. Gendron, Chief, Mental Health Wellbeing Strategy & R. Macchia, Chief of Individual Placement Review Committees (IPRC) and Assessment received.**

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Tyler Munro, that Item 8b) be adopted as follows:

- 8b) Ministry Funding Overview – Ryan Putnam, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer received.**

Time for business expired.

It was the will of the Assembly to extend the time by 15 minutes, as per unanimous consent and the Toronto Catholic District School Board's (TCDSB) By-law, Article 12.6, to complete debate on the Item.

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 Advisory Committee (SEAC) Annual Calendar (Draft) as of May 10, 2023 – Richelle de Belchior;
- 11b) Report from the Informal Working Group to Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting on May 10, 2023: Specialized Equipment and Special Education Board Improvement and Equity Plan Overview – Richelle de Belchior;
- 11c) Graduation Statistics 2021-2022 – Deborah Nightingale;
- 12a) Special Services Superintendent Update – May 2023 – Deborah Nightingale;
- 15a) Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy S.S.11 Consultation Process – Michael Caccamo, Superintendent of Nurturing our Catholic Community and Safe Schools – Deborah Nightingale;
- 16a) From Claudine Munroe, Director, Special Education and Success for All Branch regarding Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Questions from Meeting Held Wednesday, March 8, 2023 – Deborah Nightingale;

Inquiries from Tyler Munro regarding:

- 18a) What are the expectations of teaching Staff to apply Differentiated Instruction and Universal Design for Learning when planning and conducting lessons? How much training do Staff receive to develop these skills? Have all teaching Staff been trained?

If not, is there a plan to accomplish this and how far along is it? How is this monitored;

- 18b) The College of Psychologists of Ontario (CPO) Standards require that “Members working as employees must make best efforts to ensure that their work setting adheres to the *Standards of Professional Conduct (2017)* in the planning, delivery, supervision and billing practices of all psychological services provided”. What does the TCDSB’s Psychology department consider an appropriate setting when delivering services and meeting with parents to discuss their child? Would there be exceptions to this? Please elaborate on exceptions if any;
- 18c) When Principals are preparing Staff assignments for the next school year, how much emphasis is placed on considering the teacher qualifications (Additional Qualification courses etc...) or other experience when the Principal knows there will be a student with a disability in the class; and

Inquiry from Deborah Nightingale regarding:

- 18d) Gifted Programs for 2023-24.

The Chair declared a 10-minute recess.

The meeting resumed with George Wedge in the Chair with no change to the attendance.

11. Annual Calendar Items

MOVED by Richelle de Belchior, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 11a) be adopted as follows:

- 11a) Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Annual Calendar (Draft) as of May 10, 2023 received.**

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Richelle de Belchior, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 11b) be adopted as follows:

- 11b) Report from the Informal Working Group to Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting on May 10, 2023: Specialized Equipment and Special Education Board Improvement and Equity Plan Overview** received.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Deborah Nightingale, that SEAC recommend to Board that the Special Education Plan be provided to Staff for review and improvement.

Deborah Nightingale withdrew the Amendment.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Richelle de Belchior, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that the Item be received and referred to Staff.

On the Vote being taken, the AMENDMENT was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Richelle de Belchior, that Item 11c) be adopted as follows:

- 11c) Graduation Statistics 2021-2022** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

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

MOVED by Richelle de Belchior, seconded by Tyler Munro, that Item 12a) be adopted as follows:

12a) Special Services Superintendent Update – May 2023 received.

Time for business expired.

MOVED by Richelle de Belchior that time be extended by 15 minutes to complete debate on the Item.

There was no seconder.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

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

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Richelle de Belchior, that Item 15a) be adopted as follows:

15a) Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy S.S.11 Consultation Process – Michael Caccamo, Superintendent of Nurturing our Catholic Community and Safe Schools received.

Lisa McMahon did not vote/respond.

Quorum was lost.

Trustee Kennedy joined the virtual meeting at 10:49 p.m.

PRESENT:

Trustees: F. D’Amico
A. Kennedy - Virtual

External Members: G. Wedge, Chair
G. Feldman, Vice-Chair

R. De Belchior
L. McMahon
T. Munro
D. Nightingale

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Richelle de Belchior, that the remaining Agenda Items be deferred to the June 7, 2023 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

ITEMS CAPTURED IN THE ABOVE MOTION

- 16a) Communication from Claudine Munroe, Director, Special Education and Success for All Branch regarding Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Questions from Meeting Held Wednesday, March 8, 2023;

Inquiries from Tyler Munro regarding:

- 18a) What are the expectations of teaching Staff to apply Differentiated Instruction and Universal Design for Learning when planning and conducting lessons? How much training do Staff receive to develop these skills? Have all teaching Staff been trained? If not, is there a plan to accomplish this and how far along is it? How is this monitored;
- 18b) The College of Psychologists of Ontario (CPO) Standards require “Members working as employees must make best efforts to ensure that their work setting

adheres to the *Standards of Professional Conduct (2017)* in the planning, delivery, supervision and billing practices of all psychological services provided”. What does the TCDSB’s Psychology department consider an appropriate setting when delivering services and meeting with parents to discuss their child? Would there be exceptions to this? Please elaborate on exceptions if any;

- 18c) When Principals are preparing Staff assignments for the next school year, how much emphasis is placed on considering the teacher qualifications (Additional Qualification courses etc...) or other experiences when the Principal knows there will be a student with a disability in the class; and

Inquiry from Deborah Nightingale regarding:

- 18d) Gifted Programs for 2023-24.

20. Adjournment

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by Geoffrey Feldman, that the meeting be adjourned.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

SECRETARY

CHAIR