

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, December 20, 2018, 6:30 P.M.

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee was held this date in the Education Centre, 400 Taunton Road East, Whitby.

ROLL CALL:

Craig Cameron, Member At Large
Tara Culley, Durham Down Syndrome Association
Kathy Kedey, VOICE for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children
Eva Kyriakides, Association for Bright Children (ABC)
Melanie Maas, Learning Disabilities Association of Durham Region (Alternate)
Carolyn McLennon, Member At Large
Claire Perrin, Easter Seals Ontario (Alternate)

Trustees: Donna Edwards Christine Thatcher

Staff: Superintendent Andrea McAuley
Special Education Officers Kyla McKee and Bobbie O'Dell

Recording Secretary: Diane Kent

1. Call to Order:

Superintendent Andrea McAuley called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. Welcome Guests:

Superintendent Andrea McAuley welcomed special guests: Janet Cairns, Secondary Representative; Amanda Paterson, Elementary Representative; Special Education Facilitator Wendy Harold-Prins; Educational Services Consultant Bev Freedman and Certified Management Consultant Raffaella Di Cecco.

Superintendent Andrea McAuley advised that the Durham District School Board acknowledges that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships, both historic and modern, with the territories upon which our school board and schools are located. Today, this area is home to many Indigenous peoples from across Turtle Island. We acknowledge that the Durham Region forms a part of the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, the Mississauga Peoples and the treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation. It is on these ancestral and treaty lands that we teach, learn and live.

3. Regrets:

Regrets:

- Craig Cameron, Member At Large
- Carolyn McLennon, Member At Large

Absent:

- Kathy Kedey, VOICE for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children
- Claire Perrin, Easter Seals Ontario (Alternate)

4. Approval of Agenda:

The agenda was amended to defer the following item: 8 b.) Open Discussion Period to permit more time for item 7.) Presentation: Integrated Inclusive Student Services/Family of Schools Delivery Model.

That the agenda for December 20, 2018 be approved as amended.

MOVED BY: Eva Kyriakides

SECONDED BY: Tara Culley

CARRIED

4. a) Election of the Chair:

Superintendent Andrea McAuley informed committee members of the process of the SEAC Chair and Vice-Chair following the Ontario Education Act Regulations. Nominations were called for the position of Chair of SEAC.

Trustee Donna Edwards nominated Eva Kyriakides for Chair of SEAC. Eva Kyriakides accepted the nomination.

Subsequent to additional calls for nominations by Superintendent Andrea McAuley, and there being none, nominations for the position of Chair were closed. Eva Kyriakides was acclaimed to the position of Chair of SEAC.

NOMINATION:

THAT EVA KYRIAKIDES REPRESENTS THE POSITION OF CHAIR OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MOVED BY: Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONDED BY: Tara Culley

CARRIED

SEAC member Eva Kyriakides as the newly elected Chair assumed the chair and conducted the remainder of the meeting. Chair Eva Kyriakides thanked committee members for electing her to the position of Chair of SEAC.

4. b) Election of the Vice- Chair:

Chair Eva Kyriakides called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair. Trustee Christine Thatcher nominated Trustee Donna Edwards for Vice-Chair of SEAC. Seconded by Tara Culley. Chair Eva Kyriakides asked for any other nominations and then she closed the nominations. Trustee Donna Edwards was acclaimed to the position of Vice-Chair of SEAC.

NOMINATION:

THAT TRUSTEE DONNA EDWARDS REPRESENTS THE POSITION OF VICE-CHAIR OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MOVED BY: Trustee Christine Thatcher

SECONDED BY: Tara Culley

CARRIED

5. Approval of the Minutes from November 22, 2018:

That the minutes from November 22, 2018 be approved.

MOVED BY: Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONDED BY: Tara Culley

CARRIED

6. Inclusive Student Services Report:

Special Education Facilitator Wendy Harold-Prins presented the Inclusive Student Services Report.

Contingency Mapping

- Contingency Mapping is a method for helping students to understand the consequences of behavioural choices
- Contingency Maps are graphic organizers for positive behaviours
- Examples of Contingency Mapping for younger learners and older learners were provided

6. Inclusive Student Services Report: (cont'd)

Speech Language Pathology

- Speech and Language are in the midst of kindergarten assessments and rolling out Tier 1 information on Augmentative and Alternative Communication tools for students who are non-verbal
- Continuing to provide services to ever increasing numbers of students with communication needs
- Learning more about the use of the term Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) as this is a term being adopted internationally and now definitely nationally
- DLD: when a student presents with speech and language concerns that impact daily functioning, achievement, and well-being and the student is functioning in the average range cognitively

Special Incidence Portion (SIP) Claims

- Special Incidence Portion (SIP) claims have been completed
- Approximately 105 claims this year, similar to last year

7. Presentation:

Integrated Inclusive Student Services/Family of Schools Delivery Model

Superintendent Andrea McAuley informed committee members about the Integrated Service Model project. She then introduced Bev Freedman, Educational Services Consultant and Raffaella DiCecco, Certified Management Consultant. They provided SEAC members with an overview of the project, noting that it is designed to explore ways to integrate effectively Inclusive Student Services with a Family of Schools Delivery Model. Recommendations will be based on input, engagement, observations and best practices.

SEAC members were provided with an opportunity to provide input of the professional services from the perspective of parents/guardians and advocates for special educational needs.

8 a). Business Arising from the Minutes:

- SEAC SIP Funding Letter to Ministry

SEAC Chair Eva Kyriakides will follow up with Kathy Kedey regarding the status of SEAC SIP Funding letter to the Ministry of Education.

8 a). Business Arising from the Minutes: (cont'd)

- Policy for Accessible Education for Students with Disabilities – Ontario Human Rights Commission

Superintendent Andrea McAuley informed committee members that the feedback collected from the November SEAC meeting was taken back to the DDSB Accessibility Committee to review. The committee looked at the goals to ensure they were clear and measurable. Next steps will be to bring an administrative report back to the Senior Team and then to the Board of Trustees.

8 b). Scheduled Discussion Period

This item was deferred to the January SEAC meeting.

9. Reports:

Administration:

Superintendent Andrea McAuley

Special Education Plan 2019-2020

Process of the Special Education Plan, for Spring 2019. The Special Education Plan 2018-19 link will be sent to committee members to review the current plan and a reminder will also be provided at the January meeting.

Durham DSB - October 31, 2018 Enrolment Data - Students with Special Needs by Exceptionality (*not verified*)

<u>Exceptionality</u>	<u>Elementary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
Autism	1046	456	1502
Behaviour	762	472	1234
Blind/Low Vision	10	6	16
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	90	46	136
Dev Disability	65	70	135
Giftedness	605	1059	1664
Language Impairment	439	236	675
Learning Disability	2415	2215	4630
Mild Intellectual Disability	96	165	261
Multiple Exceptionalities	1082	932	2014
Physical Disability	95	43	138
Speech Impairment	3	1	4
Total	6708	5701	12409

9. Reports: (cont'd)

Superintendent Andrea McAuley (cont'd)

Changes to Therapy Services in Publicly Funded Schools Durham Region

The current children's rehabilitation service landscape in Ontario is complex. Durham District School Board (DDSB) continues to work with community partners to support students who require Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Speech Therapy. In Ontario schools Occupational Therapy (OT), Physiotherapy (PT) and Speech Therapy services are provided by contracted service agencies. Beginning January 1, 2019, the way these contracts are managed will be changing. There will be no changes to the eligibility for service or the amount of service available to school age children.

As of January 1, 2019, Grandview Children's Centre will be responsible to:

- manage the contracts for these services provided in Publicly Funded schools;
- receive and process referrals from school boards for these services;
- The Central East Local Health Integration Network and their Care Coordinators will no longer be involved in the management of occupational therapy, speech therapy and physiotherapy services in publicly funded schools. Nursing and personal support worker services at school will however, continue to be provided by the Central East Local Health Integration Network.

There will be no changes to the following:

- school boards will continue to make referrals for OT, PT, Speech Therapy services for eligible children;
- eligibility for service remains unchanged;
- the waitlist remains the same, but is now overseen by Grandview Children's Centre;
- the amount of therapy available from these agencies will remain the same;
- nursing and personal support worker services at school will still be provided by the Central East Local Health Integration Network;
- Speech and Language services currently provided by the school board Speech Language Pathologists will remain unchanged; and
- any other services that children and youth currently receive from Grandview Children's Centre will stay the same.

Approximately 8,000 files have been transferred over and the DDSB will be reaching out to each family to make sure they are aware.

Durham Region 2019 Ontario Parasport Games

The Durham Region Ontario Parasport Games will be held on February 8 – 10, 2019 at the Abilities Centre, in Whitby. Approximately 350 athletes will be coming from across the province to compete in 11 sports.

Board:

Trustee Donna Edwards informed SEAC members that the Board of Trustees held its annual internal elections for Chair, Vice-Chair, Vice-Chair of Standing Committee and committee representatives at the Board Meeting on Monday, December 3, 2018. Oshawa Trustee Michael Barrett was re-elected as Chair of the Durham District School Board.

9. Reports: (cont'd)

Board: (cont'd)

Brock, Scugog and Uxbridge Trustee Carolyn Morton was elected Vice-Chair. Oshawa Trustee Darlene Forbes was elected as the Vice-Chair of Standing Committee. Whitby Trustee Niki Lundquist was elected Chair of Education Finance.

Ajax Trustee Donna Edwards and Whitby Trustee Christine Thatcher were elected as Liaison Trustees for SEAC. Oshawa Trustees Darlene Forbes and Ashley Noble were elected as Liaison Trustee Alternates.

Trustee Donna Edwards also informed SEAC members that school boards across the province received a memo from the Ministry on Friday, December 14, 2018 that outlined a number of funding reductions. The funding cut affects several grants administered through the Education Programs – Other (EPO). At this time, staff are currently reviewing the grants and current budget to prepare recommendations to the Board.

10. Association Reports:

There were no association reports at this time.

11. Correspondence/Attachments:

- Letter from Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic DSB
- Letter from Nova's Ark

Received a letter from the organization that Nova's Ark has appointed Mary-Ann Nova to position of SEAC Non-Voting Representative and Kelly Patterson as the Alternate Non-Voting Representative.

Discussions took place among committee members and it was decided to defer Nova's Ark request at this time to permit members time to review the Education Act-Ontario Regulation 464/97 – SEAC laws. Superintendent Andrea McAuley will also reach out to other school board to inquire if they have paid services on their SEACs.

MOTION:

TO DEFER NOVA'S ARK REQUEST AS A NON-VOTING PRIVATELY PAID ORGANIZATION FOR MEMBERSHIP TO PERMIT COMMITTEE MEMBERS TIME TO REVIEW THE EDUCATION ACT-ONTARIO REGULATION 464/97 – SEAC LAWS.

MOVED BY: Trustee Christine Thatcher

SECONDED BY: Tara Culley

CARRIED

11. **Correspondence/Attachments: (cont'd)**

- Letter from Windsor-Essex Catholic DSB
- Letter from Association for Bright Children of Ontario (ABC)

Received a letter from the association that ABC has appointed Eva Kyriakides as SEAC Representative and Nancy Mann will be the Alternate Representative.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT EVA KYRIAKIDES BE THE SEAC REPRESENTATIVE AND NANCY MANN WILL BE THE ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE ASSOCIATION FOR BRIGHT CHILDREN OF ONTARIO (ABC).

MOVED BY: Melanie Maas

SECONDED BY: Tara Culley

CARRIED

- Letter from Easter Seals Ontario

Received a letter from the organization that Easter Seals Ontario has appointed Hanah Nguyen as SEAC Representative and Claire Perrin will continue to be the Alternate Representative.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT HANAH NGUYEN BE THE SEAC REPRESENTATIVE AND CLAIRE PERRIN WILL BE THE ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE EASTER SEALS ONTARIO.

MOVED BY: Trustee Donna Edwards

SECONDED BY: Melanie Maas

CARRIED

11. Correspondence/Attachments: (cont'd)

- Letter from Autism Ontario – Durham Region Chapter

Received a letter from the association that Autism Ontario – Durham Region Chapter has appointed Claudine Burrell as SEAC Representative.

Discussions took place among committee members and it was decided to decline Autism Ontario – Durham Region Chapter's request at this time as an alternate representative was not provided.

12. Questions and Comments:

Tara Culley requested an update on the retooling of Transition to Work program. Superintendent Andrea McAuley responded that effective this September, the Transition to Work program has now been formalized into a class placement. It is a pathway direct to workplace for students 18 to 21 who are obtaining their Ontario Secondary School Certificate.

Discussion also took place among committee members and it was agreed upon to move the March 28th SEAC meeting to March 21st, 2019.

MOTION:

TO MOVE THE MARCH 28TH SEAC MEETING TO MARCH 21, 2019.

MOVED BY: Melanie Maas

SECONDED BY: Tara Culley

CARRIED

13. Celebrations and Success:

Happy birthday wishes were extended to Trustee Donna Edwards.

14. Next S.E.A.C. meeting – January 17, 2019 in Room 2007.

15. Adjournment:

That the meeting does now adjourn at 8:12 p.m.

MOVED BY: Melanie Maas

SECONDED BY: Trustee Christine Thatcher

CARRIED

Report respectfully submitted by:
Eva Kyriakides, SEAC Chair

Report Special Education Advisory Committee (cont'd)
 December 20, 2018

ACTION PLAN		
ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY	COMPLETION
SEAC SIP Funding Letter to Ministry	SEAC Chair Eva Kyriakides to follow up with Kathy Kedey	By next SEAC meeting.
Nova's Ark request for SEAC membership	SEAC Members	Item deferred to next SEAC meeting.
Follow up with other school board's SEACs regarding privately paid service requests for membership	Superintendent Andrea McAuley	By next SEAC meeting.
Review Education Act-Ontario Regulation 464/97/SEAC Laws	SEAC Members	By next SEAC meeting.