



Peterborough Victoria  
Northumberland and Clarington  
Catholic District School Board

# Agenda

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## SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, April 19, 2018

BOARDROOM

6:30 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Chairperson: Kelly Smigielski

Vice-chairperson: Maria Castiglione

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TRUSTEES/MEMBERS WHO ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING ARE ASKED TO PLEASE NOTIFY SUSAN MARIUTTI, (705) 748-4861 ext. 227.
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### A. Call to Order:

1. Opening Prayer: Melissa  
We acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest
4. Excusal from Attendance  
R.A. That, \_\_\_\_\_, be excused from attendance at the April 19, 2018 Special Education Advisory Committee meeting.
5. Approval of the Minutes of the March 22, 2018 meeting (*A.5 attached*)
6. Business Arising from the Minutes

### B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Remarks: Chairperson (*Kelly*)
2. Role of the Itinerant Special Education Support Staff (*Anne Parco, Special Education Support Staff Supervisor*)
3. Remarks: Superintendent of Learning/Special Education (*Anne Marie*)
4. Discussion/Input re: SEAC's Letter to Minister of Education (*Kelly & Anne Marie*)

5. Report from SEAC members

**Arlene Godby**

Autism Ontario

- Potential Program is pleased to offer new Social Learning Opportunities starting this spring for children with ASD. In addition, Parent/Caregiver Support Group and a workshop for parents and professionals in May. You are asked to register for the ones you are interested in and will be attending. If you register and cannot attend please let the Community Events Coordinator know to cancel your spot. This enables us to move families off our lengthy wait lists. Please note if you do not cancel and do not show up for the event you **will** be charged the cost we have paid to reserve your spots(s) *(Information attached)*

**Kelly Smigielski**

Grandview Children Centre

- Grandview Physiotherapist Marj Kennelly didn't always plan on spending her time working with children. It wasn't until connecting with one patient at Ongwanada (a children's outpatient centre in Kingston) that Marj's passion for working with children was sparked.
- Kennelly recalls one young patient during her time there who really inspired her.
- "All you had to do was look at his face," recalls Kennelly. "He was so engaging and wanting the attention and wanting you to play and help him figure out what he was going to do. He inspired me to go in this direction, more than anybody else. The kids kind of call to you and you really feel like you could make a big difference for them. That's what's moved me to paediatrics and what's kept me here."
- Eventually, Kennelly's life brought her to Oshawa, where she has worked at Grandview Children's Centre as a physiotherapist for the past 30 years
- For Marj, stand out moments happen almost every day. One particularly moving story, though, would be Ryan's. Ryan was a normally developing child who had one major medical event that changed his life and his family's lives forever.
- This family used to spend their summers camping and enjoying the outdoors. After Ryan's medical event, the family struggled to adapt to this new change. So, Marj decided that she would help them figure out how to continue to enjoy nature.
- "We found them a lifejacket that was going to work for him, figured out his positioning in the canoe and since then...they travel with a camper and bring all of their equipment – he has a lot of specialized equipment – they pack it into the camper and bring it with them. It hasn't slowed them down, they are still out and enjoying the things that they love," says Kennelly.
- Ryan's mom, Kelly Smigielski, is incredibly thankful for the extra work Marj has put in for Ryan. She says that being able to see Ryan enjoying a paddle with his family again brought tears to her eyes.

- “Ryan and Marj have a very unique relationship, one he has not had with any other therapist,” says Kelly Smigielski. “I know that she is always looking out for what is best with Ryan and how everything and anything can be improved to help him move through his life experiences.”
- Marj has made house visits to make sure Ryan is moving safely around the house, checks to make sure that his home equipment is properly fitted and even attended his high school transition meeting to lend her expertise to the school team.
- So, how does Marj come up with such unique and successful ideas for kids like Ryan?
- “I don’t think we have to re-invent the wheel, I think we need to go out and look for people who are doing amazing things and then try and put our Grandview stamp on it and really pull Grandview forward so we can be on the leading edge,” says Kennelly.

**Anita Arnold**

Down Syndrome Association of Peterborough (DSAP)

- Friday, April 13, 2018, Down Syndrome Gala, is sold out and we hope it will be a great event. All money raised from this event pays for our summer school program that runs 3 weeks in August.
- ‘Extra Awesome Group’ for ages 3-7 continues with excellent attendance, first Saturday of every month until July
- 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of DSAP is in May, stay tuned for upcoming events related to this.
- Canadian Down Syndrome Association is hosting a conference in Hamilton, May 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018. For additional information [Down Syndrome Conference - Events - CDSS](#)
- DSAP is hosting a Conference at Great Wolf Lodge October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
more information to follow

**Michelle Montague**

Kerry’s Place Autism Services

- Information regarding training and camps attached

**C. Information Items:**

1. Copy of PVNC Chair letter to Minister of Education (*C.1 attached*)

**D. Old Business:**

**E. New Business:**

**F. Next Meeting:**

1. Thursday, May 17, 2018, 2018  
Boardroom, Catholic Education Centre  
6:30 – 9:00 p.m.
2. Agenda Items
3. Selection of Member for Opening/Closing Prayer:

**Future Meetings**

Tuesday, May 29, 2018 Special Olympics Opening Ceremonies (Memorial Centre, 7 pm)

Thursday, June 21, 2018

**G. Conclusion:**

1. Closing Prayer: Melissa
2. Adjournment.

## **Social Learning Opportunities, Parent/Caregiver Support Group**

### **Parent/Caregiver Support Group - RDSP Presentation**

April 19 2018 | 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

Join Autism Ontario for our Peterborough Parent/Caregiver Support Group.

This month we will have Nikki Mulvihill coming in to do a presentation on the RDSP and answer our questions. This support group is for parents/grandparents/caregivers of children with ASD. Connect with other families in your area and discuss topics that effect and interest you. Gain support and insight from local families. This is meant as a place for parents/caregivers to discuss, as such it is not an appropriate environment for children - thank you for understanding. Planning on attending? **Please register.**

### **PEAK Rock Climbing in Lindsay for Children 7-18 years old with ASD**

Are you between 7-18 years old? Want to try indoor rock climbing?

Then come out and enjoy this drop-in at the PEAK Indoor Rock Climbing and Adventure Centre, an indoor adventure facility where they follow a 'challenge by choice' philosophy. You'll be provided with adventure-based program, activities, as well as awesome indoor rock climbing and challenges on vertical elements!

This event is open to children 7 to 18 years with ASD. **Registration is required.**

### **Peterborough Cooking Club - For children 9 to 18 years old with ASD**

Elaine McCarthy, chef and cooking instructor, will show us how to make a meal and then we will share it together.

Registration is required for this club and spaces are limited. This group is open to children with ASD aged 9-18 yrs old.

There are 2 dates to choose from. Spaces are limited. **Registration is required.**

### **Peterborough Gymnastics for Children 0-18 years with ASD**

Join us to burn off some energy on a Saturday night. Families are invited to come and use all the equipment at Champion Gymnastics. Coaches will be on site to support, but parent supervision and attention is required. Children should come dressed in comfortable clothing and bring a water bottle and snack for after (if desired). No snacks or drinks will be provided for this event.

There are a maximum number of 20 children able to register for this event. Please cancel your registration if you are unable to attend so another family is able to participate. Thank you for your consideration.

**Registration is required**

### **Building a Simple Behaviour Plan - A Workshop for Parents & Professionals**

May 26th, 2018 | Peterborough | 9:00 am

This hands-on, working session will provide parents with tools and strategies for approaching excessive behaviour.

Session 1 (morning) - Why does he/she do that?

In this learning session, Parents of children (under the age of 16) will review the functions of behavior and the behavioural chain in order to recognize the factors which influence and support their child's excessive behavior(s).

Session 2 (afternoon) - What can I do to change the behavior(s)?

In this learning session, Parents of children (under the age of 16) will learn to identify and organize milestone behaviors in the goal of building a positive behavior plan using proactive and reactive strategies. **Registration is required**

**Registration** is via Eventbrite only on our events page [www.aoceseventbrite.ca](http://www.aoceseventbrite.ca)

## **Kerry's Place Autism Services is pleased to offer the following trainings and camps:**

### **DUE TO OVERWHELMING DEMAND WE HAVE NOW CONFIRMED ANOTHER COURSE OFFERING FOR DURHAM REGION...**

- **Dates:** July 10, July 17, July 24, July 31, August 7, August 14
- **Time:** 9:15am – 3:15pm
- **Location:** Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 209 Cochrane Street, Whitby, ON
- **Cost:** \$525.00

Kerry's Place Autism Services is proud to offer ASD Certificate Course opportunities to parents, individuals who professionally support those with ASD, or anyone interested in learning about the fundamentals of the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder, and strategies to employ to build upon one's successes, skills and confidence.

Our ASD Certificate Course has been offered to Kerry's Place Staff since 2011, but now due to demand, we are offering the course to the public.

**Click on the link for further details:**

<http://www.kerrysplace.org/now-for-everyone-our-autism-spectrum-disorder-certificate-course/>

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT JASON WARGA, DIRECTOR, SERVICES AND SUPPORTS**

- email: [jason.warga@kerrysplace.org](mailto:jason.warga@kerrysplace.org)
- phone: 416.537.2000 ext. 225

**Registration is now open for Summer Camp. Please see below for details.**

Summer Camp ages 6 - 9

This is a 5 day camp full of fun farm activities, games and crafts. Campers will interact with animals and spend time outside (weather permitting). Campers must reside in the Durham/HKPR region to participate in this camp. Campers must complete an intake prior to participating in camp. If more than 6 campers register, participants will be chosen by lottery system. Please see flyer for more details.

Summer Camp ages 10 - 13

This is a 5 day camp full of fun farm activities, games and crafts. Campers will interact with animals and spend time outside (weather permitting). Campers must reside in the Durham/HKPR region to participate in this camp. Campers must complete an intake prior to participating in camp. If more than 6 campers register, participants will be chosen by lottery system. Please see flyer for more details.

Click here to register : <https://secure.kerrysplace.org/community>

# Summer Camp At WindReach Farm – Ages 10-13

July 16- July 20, 2018 | Durham, ON

KERRY'S PLACE AUTISM SERVICES AND WINDREACH FARM ARE JOINING FORCES AGAIN TO OFFER ANOTHER FULL WEEK OF SUMMER FUN ON THE FARM.

This is a 5 day camp full of fun farm activities, games and crafts. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with farm animal and participate in outdoor activities and water play!

This camp is for children 10 - 13 years of age diagnosis of ASD and who meet the following criteria:

- 1) Can travel from one place to another within the facility independently
- 2) Can recognize and communicate the need for help or assistance
- 3) Needs minimal support/help to meet their own needs
- With reminders is able to demonstrate community safety skills and awareness of danger
- 4) Will remain with group (will not wander without notifying the group lead)

\*\*Campers will need to provide their own lunch and snacks\*\*

**When:** July 16 – 20

**Time:** Drop off – 9:00 am – Pick up – 3:00 pm

**Where:** Wind Reach Farm, 312 Townline Rd, Scugog

**Cost:** \$80 \*subsidy provided by Kerry's Place Respite Flexible Funds



Register  
**Now!**  
[kerrysplace.org](http://kerrysplace.org)



Visit [kerrysplace.org/summercamps](http://kerrysplace.org/summercamps)  
for complete details

[kerrysplace.org](http://kerrysplace.org)  
[info@kerrysplace.org](mailto:info@kerrysplace.org)



# Summer Camp At WindReach Farm – Ages 6-9

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This is a 5 day camp full of fun farm activities, games and crafts. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with farm animal and participate in outdoor activities and water play!

This camp is for children 6 - 9 years of age diagnosis of ASD and who meet the following criteria:

- 1) Can travel from one place to another within the facility independently
- 2) Can recognize and communicate the need for help or assistance
- 3) Needs minimal support/help to meet their own needs
- With reminders is able to demonstrate community safety skills and awareness of danger
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**Now!**  
[kerrysplace.org](http://kerrysplace.org)



Visit [kerrysplace.org/summercamps](http://kerrysplace.org/summercamps)  
for complete details

[kerrysplace.org](http://kerrysplace.org)  
[info@kerrysplace.org](mailto:info@kerrysplace.org)







Peterborough Victoria  
Northumberland and Clarington  
Catholic District School Board

Achieving Excellence in  
Catholic Education through  
Learning, Leadership and Service

PETER L. ROACH  
CATHOLIC  
EDUCATION  
CENTRE

March 21, 2018

Honourable Indira Naidoo-Harris  
Minister of Education  
22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Mowat Block  
900 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Naidoo-Harris:

Bill 191 (The Education Amendment Act (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder), 2017) is currently awaiting second reading in Provincial Parliament. This Bill ensures the provision of support for students with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) by way of board activities to promote awareness and understanding, in collaboration with parents and FASD Support Groups. We see this legislation as a very important first step in supporting these students, their families and their educators.

FASD, partial FASD, and Alcohol-Related Neurodevelopmental Disorders (ARND), where the individual had prenatal exposure to alcohol but does not display all of the features of FASD, affect at least 0.3% of the overall population, and as much as 4% of high-risk populations. It must be noted that the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) states that FASD affects individuals from **all** socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds.

Due to the neurological damage caused by pre-natal exposure to alcohol, individuals with FASD may have trouble with abstract reasoning, organization, planning, understanding or recalling a sequence of events, connecting cause and effect relationships, and/or regulating their own behaviours and emotions. Primary disabilities include inconsistent memory and recall, slow and inconsistent cognitive and auditory processing, impulsivity and poor judgment, inability to predict outcomes (of their own or others' actions), difficulty shifting from one context to another, inability to see another person's perspective, and inability to recognize indirect social cues. Research in Sweden and the U.S.A. indicates that when individuals with FASD have been studied over their life spans, their significant learning, behavioural, psychiatric, social, and legal problems can have significant impact on their families and communities, as well as on the individuals themselves.

The implications of students living with FASD in a school setting are the need for increased professional learning for staff in order to best support the student, as well as sufficient staffing to accommodate the increased need for personal support and possible safety concerns. While Bill 191 is an important step in recognizing that

supporting students living with FASD involves awareness and understanding, it must also be accompanied by the requisite Ministry funding to provide appropriate training and appropriate levels of support staff allocated to schools.

At the March 20, 2018 Board Meeting, the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board's Board of Trustees approved the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees authorize the Chair to write a letter to the Minister of Education in support of Bill 191, The Education Amendment Act (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder), 2017, copying all Ontario MPPs and school boards, and in acknowledgement of the funding required to enact the Bill.

Please accept this letter as support for Bill 191, The Education Amendment Act (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder), 2017, and as a request for your consideration of additional funding to school boards to support the implementation of the Bill.

Sincerely,



Michelle Griepsma, Chair,  
Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board  
MG/amd

Cc. M. Nasello - Director of Education PVNC CDSB  
K. Smigielski - Chair Special Education Advisory Committee PVNC CDSB  
J. Leal - MPP, Peterborough  
G. Anderson - MPP, Durham  
L. Rinaldi - MPP, Northumberland – Quinte West  
L. Scott - MPP, Haliburton – Kawartha Lakes – Brock