



Peterborough Victoria
Northumberland and Clarington
Catholic District School Board

Agenda

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, June 17, 2021

Google Meet Link: meet.google.com/wae-eive-nkc

6:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Chairperson: Arlene Godby

Vice-chairperson: Melissa Gillespie

TRUSTEES/MEMBERS WHO ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING ARE ASKED TO PLEASE NOTIFY VICKI BLAKELY (705) 748-4861 EXT. 1213
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A. Call to Order:

1. Land Acknowledgment: Laura Di Ianni
As we continue to learn together in these exceptional circumstances, I (we) would like to acknowledge, as we do at school, that this land on which we live and learn daily, is the traditional territory of the Michi Saagig (Mississauga) Anishnaabe. All of PVNC Catholic District School Board lies within the Williams Treaty territory and we are all Treaty people. We offer our gratitude to the First Peoples of this land who continue to care for, and share their teachings about, our earth and our relations. May we honour those teachings.
2. Opening Prayer: Laura Di Ianni
3. Motion to Approve Agenda
4. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest
5. Motion for Excusal from Attendance
R.A. That, _____ be excused from attendance at the June 17, 2021 Special Education Advisory Committee meeting.
6. Motion for Approval of the Minutes of the May 27, 2021 Meeting.
7. Business Arising from the Minutes:

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Remarks: Chairperson, Arlene Godby

2. Remarks: Superintendent of Learning/Special Education Services, Laurie Corrigan
3. Update from Trustees, Helen McCarthy and Emmanuel Pinto

C. Discussion Items:

A. SEAC Meeting Presentations:

1. Role of the Special Education Consultant – Laurie Corrigan, Superintendent of Learning/Special Education Services

From Presentations:

- i. What are the key learnings from the presentation?
 - ii. What do parents need to know?
 - iii. What options exist to get this information to parents?
 - iv. How can SEAC support parents in this process?
 - v. What can your associations/organizations add specifically to the learning today if any?
2. Budget – Laurie Corrigan, Superintendent of Learning/Special Education Services and Isabel Grace, Superintendent of Finance
 3. Special Education Plan Review - Laurie Corrigan, Superintendent of Learning/Special Education Services

B. Correspondence Items:

1. DDSB – Needs based Funding/Services For Children with a Diagnosis Of Autism – New Pilot Project

C. Information Items:

1. Grandview – Update June 2021
2. Autism Ontario Report

D. Old Business:

1. Membership Recruitment and Review of the [Terms of Reference](#) (page 18)
 - a. Advertising, Invitations
 - b. Organizations & Associations to invite
2. Topics for Next Year
 - a. Results of PAAC Survey from the [Agenda](#) of the January 14, 2021 meeting and [Minutes](#) of the March 25, 2021 meeting
3. Local Support Groups for Parents of Children with Vision Loss
 - a. Provincial group [Vision On](#)

- b. Parent groups on Facebook:
 - i. Parents of Blind and Visually Impaired Children
 - ii. Parents of Blind and Autistic Children
 - iii. CViConnect
 - iv. Cortical Vision Impairment DIY Supports Tools
 - v. CVI Awareness
 - vi. Communities for families affected b CVI

E. New Business:

D. Next Meeting:

- 1. **2021-2022 Meeting Dates:**
 - Thursday, September 16, 2021
 - Thursday, October 21, 2021
 - Thursday, November 18, 2021
 - Thursday, January 20, 2022
 - Thursday, February 17, 2022
 - Thursday, March 24, 2022
 - Thursday, April 21, 2022
 - Thursday, May 19, 2022
 - Thursday, June 16, 2022
 - 10th Meeting TBD
 - Location: Virtually
 - Time: 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

E. Conclusion:

- 1. Closing Prayer: Arlene Godby
- 2. Adjournment



Durham District School Board
400 Taunton Road East
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1-800-265-3968
ddsb.ca

May 28, 2021

By Email: MinisterMCCSS@ontario.ca

Honourable Todd Smith
Minister
Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services
P.O. Box 193
Toronto, ON
M7A 1N3

Dear Minister Smith:

Re: Needs-based Funding/Services For Children with a Diagnosis Of Autism - New Pilot Program

We are writing on behalf of the Special Advisory Committee (SEAC) of the Durham District School Board (DDSB) to request clarification of and to share our concerns regarding the implementation of the new funding model to support children with a diagnosis of Autism.

It is our understanding the Ministry intends to implement a pilot program, in which 600 families will be assigned using a lottery system. It is also our understanding that, at this time, the pilot has not been implemented, leaving our families caught on an unmoving wait list until the pilot is assigned, implemented, evaluated and then a decision made about how to move forward with the service. Families have been communicating anxiety, worry and stress while waiting in limbo for services.

Concerns regarding the use of Family Support Workers as the individuals responsible for guiding families in the use of their funding, have been at the forefront for families. Specifically, what training will they have received? What experience and/or lived experience will be required for this role? How will the success of that guidance be assessed?

At a school board level, the lack of clarity surrounding the implementation of this pilot project, can have challenging impacts on service planning, class placements and staffing to ensure that the needs of these students are met at the school and class level.

Historically, there has always been a long wait for services dedicated to children with a diagnosis of Autism, despite the knowledge that these services have the greatest efficacy in the early years. While we

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understand that the Ministry will be implementing a pilot, the fact that this has not yet begun, has created additional back log in access to services and caused further stress on families already trying to navigate these unprecedented times.

We ask that the Ministry provide clarification as to when this pilot is expected to begin; the expected duration of this pilot; and when the Ministry expects to have a final decision on how it intends to move forward on service provision to children with a diagnosis of Autism.

Yours truly,

Eva Kyriakides, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyriakides".

Special Education Advisory Committee
Durham District School Board

cc: Josh Manangan, Executive Assistant to the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services,
(josh.manangan@ontario.ca)

Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education (minister.edu@ontario.ca)

Eric Gallo-Miscevich, Executive Assistant to the Minister of Education (Eric.Gallo-Miscevich@ontario.ca)

Chairs, Chairs of all Ontario Special Education Advisory Committees

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Grandview – Update June 2021

There are currently four job postings available for viewing on the Grandview Kids website. These include:

- Administrative Assistant-contract FT
- Behaviour Consultant-contract FT
- Physiotherapist-regular FT
- SLP-contract FT

OT has added more information on their blog, the latest includes 8 Tips for the Picky Eater and creative ways to incorporate daily routines and tasks at home.

You are invited to join us for our 36th & [Grandview Kids Foundation](#) 26th Annual General Meetings (AGM) on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 4:30 PM! This year, our AGM Keynote Speaker will be Dr. Pep McTavish, Associate Medical Officer of Health at the Durham Region Health Department. This meeting will be held via Zoom, please see website for registration.

Summer camp registration is now open with Covid19 protocols in place.

Autism Ontario Report

Upcoming Events and Webinars - <https://www.autismontario.com/events>

Research Supported Activities -
<https://www.autismontario.com/about-autism/research-we-support>

Autism News –articles such as “While World Autism Month Ends, Our Work Continues” and “Autistic Adults Review The Good Doctor” <https://www.autismontario.com/news>

2019/2020 Annual Report link – <https://www.autismontario.com/about-us/annual-reports>