

# Minutes

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The Minutes of the Special Education Committee Meeting held on June 21, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Catholic Education Centre.

## PRESENT

Members Kelly Smigielski, Arlene Godby, Helen McCarthy, Maria Castiglione, Clare Paterson, Michelle Montague

Absent (by motion) Ruth Ciraulo, Anita Arnold, Melissa Gillespie

Absent Shawna Belcourt, Laura Quibell

Administration Anne Marie Duncan, Diane Mather

Recorder: Susan Mariutti

## **A. Call to Order:**

1. Kelly called the meeting to order and asked Helen to lead the group in prayer.

We acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Moved by Maria seconded by Arlene, that the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

3. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

None noted

4. Excusal from Attendance

Motion: Moved by Arlene, seconded by Maria, that Ruth Ciraulo, Anita Arnold, and Melissa Gillespie be excused from attendance at the June 21, 2018 Special Education Advisory Committee meeting.

Carried

5. Approval of the Minutes of the May 17, 2018 meeting.

Motion: Moved Arlene, seconded by Michelle, that the Minutes be approved.

Carried

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

None noted

**B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:**

1. Remarks: Chairperson
  - Good year, goals accomplished: SEAC banner on the Board website up and running, SEAC brochure updated and printed.
  - Response to the letter we sent to the Minister of Education regarding bench marks is attached to the agenda.
  - Special Olympics opening ceremonies were great. Very emotional, a wonderful evening.
  - In September, Kelly's son is having hip surgery, Maria will be chairing the SEAC meetings until Kelly's return.
  
2. Math and Learning Disabilities (*Psychometrics: Beth Herrington, Kerrie McFadden, Alijca Lech, Darlene Abraham, and Psychologist: Dr. Cynthia Chan Reynolds*)
  - Students with Learning Disabilities (LD) are the largest population of the students we support;
  - Learning disabilities (LD) are a variety of brain based learning disorder that affect one or more ways that a person takes in, stores, recalls or uses verbal and nonverbal information
  - Approximately 7% of school aged children have a LD in mathematics
  - Presentation attached
  
3. Remarks: Superintendent of Learning/Special Education (*Anne Marie Duncan, Superintendent of Learning/Special Education*)
  - Anne Marie thanked members who were able to attend the Special Olympics opening ceremonies.
  - Money for Multidisciplinary team; new hires will include 2 social workers, 0.5 psychometrist, and 2.5 speech language pathologists.
  - Personal changes include the hiring of the new mental health lead whose focus will be direct work in schools with staff; saying good bye to 2 special education consultants and welcome to two new special education consultants
  - Professional development for staff next year will include: Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) training for primary teachers and all special education support staff, SafeTalk training for all special education support staff, self-regulation training for CUPE staff, Behaviour Management Systems (BMS) training for teachers-in-charge, and effective Individual Education Plan (IEP) writing.
  - Ministry announced today that the school health money will remain with the LHINs.
  
4. Special Education Board Plan Checklist
  - Diane reviewed the updates to the 2018 Special Education Board Plan
  
5. 2018-2019 Budget Update
  - Anne Marie gave an overview of the 2018- 2019 budget
  
6. Administrative Procedure #320 Supporting Positive Student Behaviour: Safety for All.
  - Reviewed and supported by trustees, principals, vice principals, teachers and support staff
  - Tone of AP: not to perceive behavior as a punishment, we need to implement proactive measures before the behavior begins. Positive behavior supports, tracking student behavior (ABA based); safety plan, assessment of risk specific to student behavior (safety audit for supporting student behavior), designated self-regulation spaces outside the classrooms, debriefing, processes.

- Proactive strategies, good practice; keeping everyone safe;
- Section 14 of the administrative procedures deals with Special Needs Students, mitigating circumstances, Links to the IEP, if one exists.
- One stop shop for addressing unsafe student behavior.

7. Reports from SEAC members  
Included on Agenda

**C. Information Items**

Attached to agenda

**D. Old Business**

1. SEAC requests that a copy of their letter regarding bench marks be sent to the new Government of Ontario's Minister of Education if applicable.

**E. New Business**

**F. Next Meeting**

1. Thursday, September 27, 2018  
Boardroom, Catholic Education Centre  
6:30 – 9:00 p.m.
2. Agenda Items:
3. Selection of Member for Opening/Closing Prayer: Diane

**G. Conclusion:**

1. Closing Prayer: Helen closed the meeting with prayer.
2. Adjournment  
Motion: Moved by Arlene, seconded by Maria, that the meeting be adjourned.

Carried