

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, September 28, 2023
Catholic Education Centre - Seminar Room
1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Chairperson: Shawna Belcourt

Vice-Chairperson: Clare Paterson

Members: Shawna Belcourt, Cheryl Kottelenberg, Kathleen Tanguay

Guests: Della Stewart Figueira , Dr. Cynthia Chan Reynolds, Jennifer Angelo, Tiffany Thicksen

Administration: Jonathan Di Ianni, Karen Spenceley

Recorder: Ashleigh Faulkner

A. Call to Order:

1. Land Acknowledgment: Karen Spenceley
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 the 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: Jonathan Di Ianni
3. Additions to the Agenda
G 2. Community Collaboration - form for MASCE
G 3. RA: to the Board new SEAC member Tiffany Thicksen
G 4. Recruitment of new members - draft letter
4. Motion to approve the agenda as presented with the additions

Moved by: Kathleen Tanguay
Seconded by: Cheryl Kottelenberg
That the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

None noted.

6. Motion for Approval of the Minutes of the June 15, 2023 Meeting.

Moved by: Kathleen Tanguay
Seconded by: Cheryl Kottelenberg
That the Minutes of the Special Education Committee meeting held on June 15, 2023 be approved as presented.

Carried

7. Business arising from the Minutes:

Superintendent Di Ianni drew the Committees attention to the topics and led discussion on how these topics can be adjusted based on the need and time of year.

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Remarks: Chairperson, Shawna Belcourt

Welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed all the new members to the Committee. She wishes The previous Superintendent and Vice Principal all the best in their new roles. Reminder to send in monthly reports.

2. Remarks: Superintendent of Learning: Special Education Services/Mental Health and Well-being / Safe and Caring Schools, Jonathan Di Ianni

Superintendent Di Ianni welcomed all to the Committee. On behalf of the Board and Students of the Board, thank you for participating in this Committee. Look forward to collaboration and working towards effectiveness and supporting our children. He also welcomed the new members of the Special Education Services Department staff.

3. Remarks: Trustee Kathleen Tanguay

Trustee Tanguay reviewed with the Committee the gaps in special education funding. Trustees will attend April/May AGM and she would like to bring some resolutions forward at that meeting.

C. Presentations/Discussion Items:

1. SEPSAW - Special Education Plan for Student Achievement and Well-being - Karen Spenceley, Vice Principal of Special Education Services Board Strategic Priorities

Karen Spenceley presented on the Strategic Priorities 2021-2025. She discussed the three areas of focus: Being Creative- we will continue with supporting schools in the implementation of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) strategies to reduce barriers for students. Clinical staff are reinforcing universal learning strategies, relationship based learning and tiered intervention through consultation and modeling. Being Well - we will focus on students' strengths by using affirming language, navigating barriers and bias and promoting and honouring a culture of learning diversity. Being Community - we will continue to support a relationship-based approach where intersectionality is considered when problem solving

2. Summer Learning - Jennifer Angelo, Mental Health Lead

Jennifer Angelo presented on the Summer Learning Programs that were offered in 2023. There was a Strong Kids "Camp" which included 4 day sessions focusing on skill development and positive coping. Programs were located at four different sites and had various activities offered to the students. There was also a Summer Transitions Program offered to help with transitions from virtual school to in-person and included skill development sessions with home school visits.

D. Correspondence Items:

Correspondence Items/updates were received as follows:

1. Durham-Peel Catholic District School Board - Retention of Educational Assistants (attached)

This item has been deferred to next month's meeting for the Chairperson, Shawna Belcourt to discuss.

E. Information Items:

Information Items/updates were received as follows:

1. PVNCCDSB Board of Trustee Minutes and Agendas
<https://www.pvnccdsb.on.ca/our-board/board-meetings/>
2. Community Living Trent Highlands - Monthly Update

F. Old Business:

1. Motion Tracking:

| Motion Date | Subject/Status |
|--------------------|--|
| February 17, 2022 | PPM 172 FASD motion to draft letter |
| April 21, 2022 | PPM 172 FASD draft letter approved as presented |
| April 21, 2022 | PPM 81 Proposed Update Downloading medical procedures onto special education support staff - letter drafted ready for review by SEAC |
| May 19, 2022 | PPM81 draft letter approved as presented. |
| January 19, 2023 | Special Incidence Portion Funding motion to draft letter |
| January 19, 2023 | Extension of Learning motion to draft letter |
| February 16, 2023 | Special Incidence Portion Funding draft letter approved as presented |
| February 16, 2023 | Extension of learning draft letter approved as presented |

G. New Business:

1. Tentative Meeting topics for 2023-2024 Special Education Advisory Committee:

| Date | Topic |
|-----------------------------|--|
| October 19, 2023 | Staff Census, 2023 Board Budget |
| November 16, 2023 | Social Work |
| January 18, 2024 (virtual) | UDL/Executive Functioning, The Third Path |
| February 15, 2024 (virtual) | Equity & Inclusive Education |
| March 21, 2024 | Community Connections - Funding for Families |
| April 25, 2024 | IEPs & IPRC Processes for Families |
| May 16, 2024 | Budget for 2024-2025, CBIPSAW |
| June 13, 2024 | Special Education Plan, PAaC on SEAC |

2. Community Collaboration - form for MASCE
The members of the Committee are to reflect on this document and send the information to Ashleigh Faulkner to combine into the document.
3. Putting forward recommended action to the PVNCCDSB Board of Trustees to add one new member to the Special Education Advisory Committee.

- a. R.A. that Tiffany Thickson of the Therapeutic Family Care Program (TFC) with Highland Shores Children's Aid, be approved as a member of the Special Education Advisory Committee for the remaining term of November 15, 2022 to November 14, 2026.

Moved by: Cheryl Kottelenberg

Seconded by: Kathleen Tanguay

That the recommended action that Tiffany Thickson of the Therapeutic Family Care Program (TFC) with Highland Shores Children's Aid, be approved as a member of the Special Education Advisory Committee for the remaining term of November 15, 2022 to November 14, 2026

Carried

4. Recruitment of members for the SEAC Committee

The Committee discussed the need to draft a letter for distribution to Community organizations and CPEC Committee (Board wide and school councils).

H. Next Meeting:

1. Selection of Members for Territorial Recognition, Opening and Closing Prayers
 - a. Territorial Recognition: Cheryl Kottelenberg
 - b. Opening Prayer: Tiffany Thickson
 - c. Closing Prayer: Kathleen Tanguay

I. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer: Kathleen Tanguay
2. Adjournment

Moved by: Kathleen Tanguay

Seconded by: Cheryl Kottelenberg

That the meeting held on September 28, 2023, be adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Carried