

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 30, 2024
Room 308, Education Centre

Present

Association Representatives – voting members

Dawn Danko, Trustee Ward 7
Danielle Dion-Broadley, FASD Parent & Caregiver Support Group
Judy Colantino, Down Syndrome Association of Hamilton, SEAC Chair
Julie Armstrong, Centre for Diverse Learners
Lindsay Bray, McMaster Children’s Hospital Developmental Pediatrics and Rehabilitation Portfolio, SEAC Vice Chair
Melanie Roberts, The Association for Bright Children of Ontario
Sarah Pennington, Community Living Hamilton
Tracy Sherriff, Community Living Hamilton (alternate)

Regrets

Cecile Santos-Ayrault, The Association for Bright Children of Ontario (alternate)
Jessica Malcew, VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children
Lynn Vanderbrug, Lynwood Charlton Centre
Maria Felix Miller, HWDSB Chair, Trustee Ward 3
Nancy Silva Khan, Autism Ontario (Central West Chapter)
Susi Owen, CNIB Hamilton and Niagara

Staff

Jennifer Bibby, COPE 527
John Manzin, System Principal, Special Education, Inclusion & Equity – Transition Navigation
John Whitwell, Temporary System Principal, Special Education, Inclusion & Equity
Krista Brodersen, Hamilton-Wentworth Principals’ Council - Secondary
Sharon Stephanian, Superintendent of Special Education, Inclusion & Equity
Yannis Tjanetis, Hamilton-Wentworth Principals’ Council – Elementary

Item	Discussion/Decision
1. Welcome and Call to Order	Judy Colantino called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm welcoming everyone
2. Land Acknowledgement	Judy Colantino, Chair of SEAC
3. Approval of Agenda	On the motion of Dawn Danko, seconded by Lindsay Bray, the Committee recommends that the agenda be approved CARRIED.
4. Special Education, Inclusion & Equity Department Carousels	Committee members visited department carousels led by Special Education, Inclusion & Equity Leadership Teams: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Special Education Part 1 Additional Qualification Course – Julie Anderson, System Principal• Psychological Services – Danielle Buist, Manager, Linda Hall, Psychoeducational Consultant• Centre for Success, Gifted Program – John Manzin, System Principal, Transition Navigation• Speech & Language Services – Anna Gill, Manager• Multi-Disciplinary Team – Brian Mason, Manager, Erica Konrad, Behaviour Analyst Lead
5. Transition Navigation	John Manzin, System Principal, Special Education, Inclusion & Equity: Transition Navigation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Postponed to future meeting

<p>6. Approval of the Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ September 25, 2024 	<p>On the motion of Dawn Danko, seconded by Julie Armstrong, the Committee recommends that the minutes be approved</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>
<p>7. Business Arising from the Minutes</p>	
<p>8. Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Trustees b) Local Association Representatives c) Superintendent 	<p>a) Dawn Danko, Trustee Ward 7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustees on the policy committee provided feedback on the Student Behaviour & Bias-Free Progressive Discipline Policy ahead of the revised draft policy being shared with the committee in November. The proposed public consultation is expected later this fall through the winter of 2025. • Following direction from Trustees in December 2023, staff are completing Islamophobia, Anti-Muslim Racism and Anti-Palestinian Racism Training this fall, with all school-based staff engaging in training Nov. 1st. Antisemitism training will occur for all school-based staff on February 28, 2025 (PA Day). <p>b) Julie Armstrong, Centre for Diverse Learners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDL Winter Programs open Nov. 11th – registration and program information available in the catalogue <p>c) Sharon Stephanian, Superintendent of Special Education, Inclusion & Equity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gerry Smith, Superintendent of Safe, Compassionate & Equitable Schools will join us at the November meeting to present the Safe Schools data on suspension & expulsion. • On the November 13th principal vice principal learning day, we will be presenting on understanding the IEP, duty to accommodate and human rights. • November 22nd is a subject specific PA day for secondary where learning resource teachers will connect with special education teachers for a day of learning and networking. The elementary EAs and CYCPs will be participating in online sessions. • Todd Graves, Vice Principal, Glenwood School is retiring, John Forbeck (former Superintendent) is currently covering until a principal is hired.
<p>9. Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Community Living Hamilton – change in membership b) Hamilton FASD & Caregiver Support Group – change in membership 	<p>a) On the motion of Dawn Danko, seconded by Julie Armstrong, the Committee recommends the change in membership be approved</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p> <p>b) On the motion Lindsay Bray, seconded by Julie Armstrong, the Committee recommends the change in membership be approved</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>
<p>10. Other Business</p>	
<p>11. Adjournment</p>	<p>On the motion of Julie Armstrong, seconded by Dawn Danko, the Committee recommends that the meeting be adjourned, this being done at 7:25 pm.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>