

**HALTON DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**Special Education Advisory Committee – (Hybrid Meeting)**

Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 7:00 pm

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Jennifer Legare (Autism Ontario); Alison Brindle (Centre for Diverse Learners-Halton); Amanda Winch (Autism Ontario); Xin Yi Zhang, (Trustee); Nadina Toric (Community Living Burlington); Evelyn Bursey (Community Living North Halton); Erin Sproule (VOICE for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children); Katie Schleifer (Member At Large); ; Carole Baxter (Trustee); Sarah Lansley (Easter Seals Society); Melissa Dockeray (Easter Seals Society); Erin Ruppel (OPVIC); Joanna Oliver (Trustee)

**Staff:** Colette Ruddock (Superintendent, Special Education); Conan Spruin (Principal, Special Education); Sommer Sweetman (Communications); Marta Zammit (Office Supervisor, Special Education)

**Regrets:** Kate Lambacher (Association for Bright Children); Naveed Ahmed (Trustee); Diane Vandenbossche (Centre for Diverse Learners-Halton); Surekha Kanithi (Association for Bright Children); Angel Zuzic (Community Living North Halton); Sophia Siddiqi (Halton Down Syndrome Association); Kajsa Klassen (Member At Large)

**1.0 Opening**

**1.1 Welcome and Call to Order**

Chair Brindle called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**1.2 Honouring the Land and Territory**

Chair Brindle read the Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands.

**1.3 Approval of Agenda**

#226-24

Moved by: A. Winch

Seconded by: E. Sproule

Be it resolved that the April 2, 2024 agenda for the Special Education Advisory Committee be approved as presented.

**Carried Unanimously**

1.4 Minutes of March 5, 2024

#227-24

Moved by: A. Winch

Seconded by: M. Dockeray

Be it resolved that the meeting minutes for the March 5, 2024 Special Education Advisory Committee be approved as presented.

**Carried Unanimously**

**2.0 Action**

2.1 Anti-Bullying Strategy Presentation

Superintendent Jennifer Fowler provided a presentation on anti-bullying strategies. There was an opportunity to ask questions after the presentation.

2.2 OPVIC Presentation

Erin Ruppel provided information on OPVIC services. More information can be found [here](#). There was an opportunity to ask questions after the presentation.

2.3 Renaming of Self-Contained Learning Disability and Life Skills Programs

Principal Conan Spruin provided an update on the renaming of self-contained programs to Academic Resource Classroom (LD) and Community Pathway Elementary (LS) and next steps. There was an opportunity to ask questions.

**3.0 SEAC Discussion/Question Period**

None.

**4.0 Communication to SEAC**

4.1 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Ruddock provided information on self contained class sizes for next school year. There was an opportunity to ask questions.

Special Athletics Track Meet on June 14, 2024 at Garth Webb, Oakville.

4.2 Association Reports

Happy Autism awareness day.

Three post secondary scholarships available - details available on Autism Ontario website.

Alison Brindle shared a new program being launched on gun and gang violence and social skills segments, healthy relationships and consent, and where to go for help if uncomfortable. More information on the Centre for Diverse Learners website.

#### 4.3 Trustee's Reports

Trustee Baxter provided updates on multi year strategic planning progress.

#### 4.4 Committee Reports

The committees had nothing to report.

#### **5.0 Next Agenda/Order Paper**

- Special Education plan
- Budget Presentation
- Process for student needs
- Analysis of unidentified IEP data

#### **6.0 Adjournment**

Chair Brindle adjourned the meeting at 8:05 pm.