



Halton District School Board

HALTON DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Special Education Advisory Committee

JW Singleton Education Centre (Board Room), Burlington

Tuesday October 4, 2016, 7pm

MINUTES

Present: Denise Nacev, **Chair** (Member-at-Large); Amy Collard **Vice-Chair** (Trustee Representative); Jason Bartlett, (Member-at-Large); Kim Graves (Trustee Alternate); Susan Suter (Easter Seals Ontario); Lucille Morris (Member-at-Large); Leah Reynolds (Trustee Representative); Dawn Spence (Association for Bright Children); Carla Marshall (Autism Ontario); Sherry Foster (Association for Bright Children); Richelle Papin (Trustee Alternate); Tammy Beattie (Learning Disabilities Association of Halton); Diane Vandebossche (Learning Disabilities Association of Halton); Keren Mack (Autism Ontario)

Staff: David Boag (Associate Director); Jane Lewis (Principal of Special Education); Margaret Kew (Vice-Principal Special Education); Rebecca Bardin (SEAC Assistant)

Trustees: Jeanne Gray, Andrea Grebenc

Regrets: Mark Zonneveld (Superintendent)

Absent: Judy Shiels (Voice for Hearing Impaired Children)

1.0 **Opening**

1.1. Welcome and Call to Order

D. Nacev called the Meeting to order at **7:01** p.m.

D. Nacev welcomed D. Boag, Associate Director who is attending tonight's meeting in Superintendent, M. Zonneveld's absence.

1.2. Approval of Agenda

#54-17 D. Vandebossche/J. Bartlett

Be it resolved that the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the agenda for October 4, 2016 as distributed

Carried Unanimously.

2.0 **Call for Notices of Motion/Reports to the Board**

none

3.0 **Action**

3.1. Minutes of September 13, 2016 meeting

#55-17 D. Vandebossche/J. Bartlett

Be it resolved that the minutes for the meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee for September 13, 2016 be approved as amended.

Carried Unanimously

3.2. AODA presentation and input – Superintendent Rob Eatough

R. Eatough presented SEAC with an overview of the Annual review process of the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and the Annual Review Process Fall 2016.

R. Eatough mentioned that the Accessibility Coordinating Committee is currently seeking a SEAC member to sit on the committee.

Presentation concluded and R. Eatough responded to SEAC questions and comments.

S. Suter requested the details of date/location of the Accessibility Coordinating Committee meetings and mentioned that this information will be shared with the Easter Seals Representative when a replacement has been confirmed.

R. Eatough responded that the committee primarily meets at J.W. Singleton 4 or 5 times a year, each meeting is approximately 1.5 hrs. and generally takes place during the day. Past meetings have taken place on Thursdays from 9-11am at J. W. Singleton Centre.

S. Suter cautioned SEAC that there have been many incidences where tethers have broken loose and caused serious accidents while students have been secured in a wheel chair during vehicle transportation.

SEAC members gathered in three discussion groups. When discussion concluded R. Eatough assured SEAC that the information gathered at this session will be taken back to the Accessibility Coordinating Committee for further review.

3.3. Admin Procedure- Self Contained Classroom

D. Nacev referred to the Self Contained Classroom Admin Procedure that was sent out to SEAC to review and asked if there were any concerns or questions/feedback from SEAC.

S. Foster suggested alternate wording be used to the language “The Board provides smaller class size settings” found in the intended purpose section .

4.0 Questions from the Public

none

5.0 SEAC Discussion/Question Period

D. Nacev referred to the Special Education Plan Review process and mentioned that SEAC will be reviewing content and not spelling/formatting.

- January - Student Services recommended changes will be brought forward to SEAC to review.
- February – SEAC will have had a month to review the edits to the plan and will be given the opportunity to vote at the February SEAC meeting.

J. Bartlett would like to know how the changes will be brought forward to SEAC?

D. Boag suggested that the format could be in a form of a list indicating the change and where it can be found in the Special Education Plan document.

D. Vandebossche requested clarification surrounding math PD scheduled for the North area schools in the next month and would like to know why the East and West area schools are not receiving this training until April?

D. Boag responded that although there is a focus around math and Special Education, the pd opportunities are staggered because of BMS training. J. Lewis responded that Program Leads from School Programs and Student Services are in schools offering a great deal of one-to-one job embedded training.

J. Bartlett acknowledged that the new HDSB website looks great but he is concerned that there is no top level extension to the SEAC page. Discussion ensued and suggestions were brought forward for the HDSB/SEAC site.

D. Boag responded that the HDSB website is intended to be more convenient to navigate – these suggestions will be brought forward to M. Denton.

S. Suter mentioned that she was recently contacted by a Principal through Easter Seals inquiring if Easter Seals could fund a dividing wall for a self-contained class of a development classroom at the secondary level.

D. Boag responded that the Principal be redirected back to the Superintendent of that area.

6.0 **Communication to SEAC**

6.1. **Superintendent's Report**

D. Boag asked SEAC to bring forward any questions/comments they may have regarding M. Zonneveld's Superintendent Report that was emailed out to SEAC prior to the meeting.

J. Bartlett would like to know who the SEAC representative is on the Special Education Review Committee. D. Nacev confirmed that she will be representing SEAC on this committee.

S. Foster would like to know if there will be difficulty retrieving information and providing the consultants with the data needed to conduct the review.

D. Boag responded that this will depend on which data the consultants require as some information will come from the outside. The Focus will be to have tangible information within this school year and report back to the Board in January if possible to assist with planning for next year.

D. Boag communicated that Trustee Joanna Oliver was selected by the Chair to sit on the Special Education Review Committee.

D. Nacev requested that SEAC members forward any questions/comments to D. Nacev and M. Zonneveld that they would like brought forward in the Special Education Review.

6.2. Association Reports

LDAH Report to SEAC , Oct 5, 2016

First I would like to thank Director Miller for inviting LDAH to be active in many of the LD initiatives- PD planning for Math PD, attending the Lexia Reading Program workshop, attending Technology workshop.

1. Reading Rocks will start the third session of our first year of OTF funding on Oct 11. We are in 3 locations - our Resource Centre in Burlington, St. Andrew School in Oakville and Sam Sherratt School in Milton. We offer this specialized reading instruction to struggling readers ages 6-12 free of charge so that families who can't afford outside tutoring can take advantage. If you know of any child who may qualify please help the parents to contact Katie at LDAH. We are also always on the lookout for volunteer tutors - we encourage post-secondary students in relevant courses to apply - we also encourage senior high schools students to apply. We provide the necessary materials and the training.
2. Our Lecture Series and Parent Tool Kit sessions are ready to start. October is LD awareness month, as well as Dyslexia Awareness month. It is not coincidental that our first topic, on October 19, presents Phonological Awareness. Our attendees will receive a binder with dedicated dividers which will become part of their tool kit when advocating for their children at school and in the community. We are purchasing 300 copies of the YRDSB Understanding Learning Disabilities waterfall booklet and will distribute these to parents at our workshops throughout the year.
3. Our 6th Annual Conference - Solutions for Learning - Minds that Matter III - will take place on Thursday March 23, 2017 at the Holiday Inn, Burlington. Stay tuned for more information.

6.3. Trustee Reports

A Collard

- Program and Accommodation Review (PAR) – S. Miller has prepared a report and will come for discussion at tomorrow's board meeting.
- Trustee Code of Conduct coming forward at tomorrow's Board meeting.

6.4. Committees and Other Reports

PIC- D. Nacev

- October 14th, SEAC will have a table. Location is Craig Kielburger.
- D. Nacev is looking for a SEAC Representative to sit on the PIC Committee.

Protocol and Communication Committee - J. Bartlett

- Any associations with information they would like added to a newsletter – send to J. Bartlett to prepare in mail chimp.

S. Foster commented that currently 4 associations are being represented at SEAC and would like to work as a group to recruit more associations. Discussion ensued amongst the member's and suggestions were brought forward of how this can be achieved together. A. Collard responded that she will supply a list of potential associations and suggested that each SEAC member take one name to contact.

J. Gray mentioned the document [“We Have Something to Say”](#). Young people and their families speak out about Special Needs. This document is available online – R. Bardin will send SEAC the link to the document.

D. Boag responded that he has contacted the provider of the document and requested several hard copies. Would like to send this to SEAC, Special Education Department and Schools.

7.0 Next Agenda/Order Paper

T. Wilson – Presentation on Mental Health Strategy
December – PPM8 Presentation

8.0 Adjournment

8.1. Motion to Adjourn

#56-17 D. Nacev/L. Morris

“THAT the meeting be adjourned.”

Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm