



Statutory Committee

Name of Committee: Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Meeting Date: June 12, 2023

Directed To: Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee

A hybrid meeting of the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) convened on June 12, 2023 from 7: 00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. with SEAC Chair Jean-Paul Ngana and Vice-Chair Michelle Aarts presiding.

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| Attendance: | Melissa Rosen- Association for Bright Children (ABC) Julie Diamond- Autism Society of Ontario (Toronto Chapter) Leo Lagnado (Alternate)- Autism Society of Ontario (Toronto Chapter) Richard Carter- Down Syndrome Association of Toronto (DSAT) Aliza Chaqpar- Easter Seals Ontario Steven Lynette- Epilepsy Toronto Nora Green- Integration Action for Inclusion in Education and Community Diane Montgomery (Alternate)- Integration Action for Inclusion in Education and Community Guilia Barbuto- Learning Disabilities Association Toronto District Aline Chan (Alternate)- Community Living Dana Chapman (Alternate)- Ontario Parents of Visually Impaired Children (OPVIC) Bronwen Alsop- VOICE for Deaf and Hearing Impaired Children Stephany Ragnany- VOICE for Deaf and Hearing Impaired Children Beth Dangerfield- Centre for ADHD Awareness Canada CADDAC David Lepofsky- Ontario Parents of Visually Impaired Children (OPVIC) Nerissa Hutchinson- Sawubona Africentric Circle of Support Trustee Michelle Aarts- (Ward 16) Saira Chhibber- LC1 Representative Jean-Paul Ngana- LC2 Representative Jordan Glass- LC2 Representative Kirsten Doyle- LC3 Representative Izabella Pruska-Oldenhof- LC4 Representative Jana Girdauskas- LC4 Representative Staff |
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Note: On May 25, 2022, the [Board decided](#), inter alia, that Community Advisory Committees may “report out to any standing committee of the Board” with “recommendations only and all other information and activities are reported annually”.

For more information on the mandates of Standing and Permanent Committees of the Board, and to assist Staff Leads in directing Community Advisory Committee reports, please visit

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Committees>

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| | Andrea Roach- Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education Louise Sirisko- Associate Director Nandy Palmer- System Superintendent, Special Education and Inclusion Effie Stathopoulos- Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education Elizabeth Chalmers- Administrative Liaison (SOE) Katia Palumbo- Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education Susan Moulton- Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education Wendy Terro- Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education Elizabeth Schaeffer- Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education Mun Shu Wong- (Audio/Video) Lianne Dixon- TDSB SEAC Liaison |
| Regrets: | Trustee Liban Hassan (Ward 6) Trustee Zakir Patel (Ward 19) Tracey O'Regan Community Living Toronto |

Part A: Recommendations

The TDSB SEAC recommends:

that the Board provide SEAC with a detailed explanation of all planned cuts to the special education budget and their impacts on the delivery of special education services and the implication for students with special education needs and hence how they will instead support these students and meet their legal obligations.

Part B: Staff Supplementary Information

At the Regular Meeting of the Board on May 24, 2023, the Board received the Special Education and Inclusion Service Level Data (2022-2023) Report. This report was presented to the Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee (FBEC) on May 15, 2023 in response to SEAC's motion for staff to provide service-level data directly linked to students with special education needs to the Board of Trustees to help inform the Board's budget decisions.

Report Submitted by:

Louise Sirisko, Associate Director, Instructional Innovation and Equitable Outcomes at louise.sirisko@tdsb.on.ca

Nandy Palmer, System Superintendent of Special Education and Inclusion at nandy.palmer@tdsb.on.ca

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