

# Amendments to the Special Education Plan, 2024-2025

To: Regular Meeting

**Date:** 19 June, 2024

**Report No.:** 06-24-4731

### **Strategic Directions**

- Commit to the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action.
- Belong All students belong, are engaged, and valued in an inclusive environment.
- Achieve All students reach high levels of achievement, success, and personal development.
- Thrive All students graduate with the confidence, skills, and knowledge to thrive.
- Revitalize All students and staff learn and work in inclusive, safe, and modern environments.

Equity as a guiding principle: Equity is foundational to all TDSB work and will be embedded throughout the strategic directions.

### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Amendments to the TDSB Special Education Plan (2024-2025) be approved.

#### Context

In accordance with <u>Regulation 306</u> and the Ministry policy document entitled <u>Standards</u> <u>for School Boards' Special Education Plans</u>, each school board is required to maintain a special education plan, to review it annually, to amend it from time to time to meet the current needs of its exceptional students, and to submit any amendment(s) to the Minister for review.

One of the purposes of a district's special education plan is to provide the Ministry of Education and the public with information about special education programs and services that are provided by the school board in accordance with legislation and Ministry policy on special education. It is a requirement that each district also submit a Parent Guide to Special Education when submitting its special education plan.

The Special Education and Inclusion Department receives formal and informal feedback about the special education plan through conversations with school and department staff, SEAC, community groups, advocacy groups, parents/guardians/caregivers, and through a survey link at the beginning of each section of the current plan posted on the public website.

Under Regulation 464/97, the board shall ensure that its special education advisory committee is provided with opportunities to participate in the annual review of the board's Special Education Plan. The TDSB SEAC has created a Special Education Plan Work Group that both oversees the annual review of the plan and communicates to members of the community and parents/guardians/caregivers of children who are receiving special education programs and services the timelines for providing input to the Special Education Plan.

Parents/guardians/caregivers or community members who wish to give input to the plan may do so in a number of ways:

- o contact their school principal;
- contact their School Advisory Council;
- contact the TDSB SEAC.

By July 31<sup>st</sup> of each year, the Special Education Plan is submitted to the Ministry with the following documents:

- a letter from the director of the school board that confirms that the school board's special education plan is being submitted in compliance with the requirements of Regulation 306 and of the <u>Standards for School Boards' Special Education Plans</u>
- a copy of the board's motion of approval of the plan, including the date of approval; and
- a copy of any related motions or recommendations from the board's SEAC (N/A for this year).

### **Action Plan and Associated Timeline**

The 2024-2025 TDSB Special Education Plan will be submitted to the Ministry by July 31, 2024.

The TDSB Special Education Plan will be implemented in its amended form in the 2024-2025 school year. It will be reviewed again next year as per the requirements set out in Regulation 306 of the *Education Act* – Special Education Programs and Services.

### **Resource Implications**

Continuous supports and resources are based on the approval of the budget annually by the Board of Trustees and are subject to funding through the Ministry of Education.

### **Communications Considerations**

Each board is required to make its special education plan available to the public at the same time that it submits the plan to the Ministry (prior to July 31 of each year). The TDSB Special Education Plan is posted on both the internal (staff) and external (public) websites. It is shared with all members of the TDSB Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) so that they can share with parents/guardians/caregivers who may contact them. The plan is also shared with TDSB staff through a memo specifically about the Special Education Plan that is sent out at the beginning of the new school year.

## **Board Policy and Procedure Reference(s)**

- TDSB Special Education Plan 2022-2023
- TDSB Special Education Plan 2024-2025 (Being finalized)
- TDSB Vision for Learning
- TDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan
- TDSB Equity Policy

# **Appendices**

Appendix A: Guide to Special Education and Inclusion for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers

Appendix B1: Amendments to the TDSB Special Education Plan (2024-2025)

Appendix B2: Amendments to the TDSB Special Education Plan (2024-2025 Detailed Report)

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