

**Name of Committee:** Special Education Advisory Committee

**Meeting Date:** 4 November, 2019

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee convened on November 4, 2019 from 7:06 pm to 9:15 pm in the TDSB Board Room (5050 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON).

**Attendance:**

Association for Bright Children (ABC)	Melissa Rosen
Autism Society of Ontario – Toronto	Lisa Kness (phone)
Community Living Toronto	Tracey O'Regan (phone)
Down Syndrome Association of Toronto	Richard Carter
Easter Seals Ontario	Vacancy
Epilepsy Toronto	Steven Lynette
Integrated Action for Inclusion (IAI)	Tania Principe (phone)
Learning Disabilities Association Toronto	Patrick Smith
VIEWES for the Visually Impaired	David Lepofsky (phone)
VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children	Paul Cross
LC1	Nora Green Aline Chan
LC2	Jean-Paul Ngana
LC3	Olga Ingrahm
LC4	Diane Montgomery
TDSB Trustees	Trustee Michelle Aarts, Trustee Alexander Brown

**Also present were:**

Kathy Witherow, Associate Director, Leadership, Learning and School Improvement  
Angela Nardi-Addesa, System Superintendent, Special Education and Inclusion  
Lucy Gianotta, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education (Acting)  
Jennifer Newby, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC4  
Susan Moulton, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC 2  
Dr. John Malloy, Director  
Peter Marks, Conscious Classrooms  
Lianne Dixon, TDSB SEAC Liaison

Regrets: Trustee Alexandra Lulka, Jordan Glass, Kirsten Doyle

The following participated by electronic means: David Lepofsky, Tania Principe, Tracy O'Regan, Lisa Kness

## **Part A: Recommendations**

### **SEAC Association Membership**

- 1) On the Toronto District School Board SEAC, there are twelve positions for SEAC Local Associations and there are two vacancies. The vacancies have been posted on the SEAC pages of the TDSB website. An application to join TDSB SEAC was received from CADDAC (Centre for Attention Deficit

Disorder Awareness Canada). Director of CADDAC, Heidi Bernhardt, has written a letter requesting membership and nominating Juanita Beaudry as its Association Representative. Both CADDAC and their nominee meet the criteria outlined by Regulation 464/97 for membership. Discussion took place at SEAC in support this recommendation.

## **SEAC Association Member Representative**

- 1) On the Toronto District School Board SEAC, there is a member representative vacancy for Easter Seals Ontario. Alison Morse, Senior Manager, Easter Seals Ontario, has written a letter nominating Aliza Chagpar to be their representative on SEAC. This nominee meets the criteria outlined by Regulation 464/97 for membership.
- 2) On the Toronto District School Board SEAC, there is an alternate member representative vacancy for VOICE for deaf and hard of hearing children. Mary Kay McCoy, Chairperson, has written a letter nominating Kara Stewart-Agostino to be their representative on SEAC. The nominee meets the criteria outlined by Regulation 464/97 for membership.

## **SEAC Community Member Representative**

- 1) On the Toronto District School Board SEAC, there is a community member vacancy for Learning Centre 4. Izabella Pruska-Oldenhof has submitted an application for this position. Taking into consideration the criteria outlined in the Terms of Reference, Izabella Pruska-Oldenhof is being recommended as the LC4 Community Representative.

(Appendix A)

## **Part B: For Information Only**

### **Presentations:**

- Director John Malloy presented an update on the Multi Year Strategic Plan and what changes have taken place in Special Education since his last presentation in June 2018. Dr. Malloy answered questions from SEAC members about transportation, collection of data, and professional learning.
- Peter Marks presented information about Conscious Classrooms (Facilitating Optional Learning Environments in TDSB Schools). Conscious Classrooms focuses on training educators in Mindful Emotional Self-regulation Skills to enhance learning conditions.
  - Powerpoint attached (Appendix B)

### **Leadership, Learning and School Improvement Department Updates:**

- Project Search  
Information Night November 27<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:00 pm Holland Bloorview Rehab Hospital. Flyer was shared with SEAC members
- #tdsbUDL  
#tdsbUDL supports teachers to understand and effectively use UDL through the creation of multimodal resources shared in both physical and digital spaces.

- Special Education Plan Working Group

The Special Education Plan has been divided up into sections and assigned for discussion at monthly SEAC meetings (Appendix C)

Part C: Ongoing Matters

Nil

**Report Submitted by:** Lianne Dixon

## **Appendix A**

### **New Association Member (CADDAC)**

*Whereas there are 2 association vacancies on TDSB SEAC and*

*Whereas SEAC has received a nomination from the “Centre for ADHD Awareness Canada (CADDAC)”, and*

*Whereas Heidi Bernhardt, the Director of CADDAC, has nominated Juanita Beaudry as representative, therefore,*

*It is recommended that the Toronto District School Board appoint CADDAC as a TDSB member association on the TDSB Special Education Advisory Committee for the 2018 to*

*2022 term, with Juanita Beaudry as its representative*

### **Easter Seals Association Member**

*Whereas there is an Association Representative vacancy on TDSB SEAC for the Easter Seals Ontario and*

*Whereas Alison Morse, Senior Manager, Easter Seals Ontario, has nominated Aliza Chagpar, and this nominee meets the criteria for membership outlined in Regulation 464/97 therefore,*

*It is recommended that the Toronto District School Board appoint Aliza Chagpar as Association Representative for Easter Seals Ontario on the TDSB Special Education Advisory Committee for the 2018 to 2022 term.*

### **Alternate Member VOICE**

*Whereas there is a Alternate Representative vacancy on TDSB SEAC for VOICE and,*

*Whereas Mary Kay McCoy, Chairperson, VOICE, has nominated Kara Stewart-Agostino and, this nominee meets the criteria for membership outlined in Regulation 464/97 therefore,*

*It is recommended that the Toronto District School Board appoint Kara Stewart-Agostino as Alternate Association Representative for Voice on the TDSB Special Education Advisory Committee for the 2018 to 2022 term.*

### **Learning Centre 4 Representative**

*Whereas there is a Community Representative vacancy on TDSB SEAC for for LC4 and*

***Whereas Izabella Pruska-Oldenhof, has submitted an application and meets the criteria for membership outlined in Regulation 464/97 therefore,***

***It is recommended that the Toronto District School Board appoint Izabella Pruska-Oldenhof as Community Representative for Learning Centre 4 on the TDSB Special Education Advisory Committee for the 2018 to 2022 term.***