



Statutory Committee

Name of Committee: Special Education Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: 5 October 2020

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee convened on October 5, 2020 at 7:00 pm through electronic means, Chair Steven Lynette (elected at the meeting) chaired the meeting.

Association for Bright Children (ABC)		Melissa Rosen
Autism Society of Ontario – Toronto		Lisa Kness
Community Living Toronto		Tracy O'Regan
Epilepsy Toronto		Steven Lynette
Down Syndrome Association of Toronto		Richard Carter
Easter Seals Ontario		Aliza Chagpar
Integrated Action for Inclusion (IAI)		Tania Principe
IEWS for the Visually Impaired		David Lepofsky
VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children		Kara Agostino
Learning Disability Association		Nadia Persaud
CADDAC		Juanita Beaudry
LC1	Aline Chan	Nora Green
LC2	Jordan Glass	Jean-Paul Ngana
LC3	Olga Ingrahm	Kirsten Doyle
LC4	Diane Montgomery	Izabella Pruska-Oldenoff,
TDSB Trustees	Alexander Brown	Michelle Aarts

Also present were:

Kathy Witherow, Associate Director

Craig Snider, Associate Director

Andrew Gold, Interim Associate Director

Angela Nardi-Addesa, System Superintendent, Special Education and Inclusion

Steve Shaw, Executive Officer, Facility Services

Janine Small, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education

Jennifer Newby, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC4

Effie Stathopoulos, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC1

Susan Moulton, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC2

Cindy Zwicker-Reston, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC 3

Lianne Dixon, TDSB SEAC Liaison

Part A: Recommendations

Nil

Part B: For Information Only

SEAC Chair Interim Election

Nora Green, Chair of SEAC, resigned from her post as chair. Steven Lynette was acclaimed as interim chair until December 2020 at which time SEAC will hold its annual election.

Leadership, Learning and School Improvement Department Updates:

Information was shared on the following topics:

In-school and Virtual school numbers

- Elementary
 - In-Person: 109, 060 students
 - Virtual School: 58, 526 students
 - Virtual School Teachers: 2, 266
- Secondary
 - In-Person: 52, 469 students
 - Virtual School: 17, 970 students
 - Virtual School Teachers: 770

Reorganization

- September 30, 2020 was the Transition deadline; October 13 is the new start date
- Teacher allocations will be adjusted based on actual student enrolment

- Permanent staff will be redeployed to where they are needed (VS & other schools)
- Numbers were shared for Special Education Students changing from Virtual to In-person and from in-person to Virtual

Staffing

- Teachers placed in a Virtual School ISP or HSP/Resource have Special Education Qualifications Part 1, Part 2 or Specialist
- Students have been placed in classes based on several factors such as:
 - grade
 - special education program
 - ISP classes from the in-person school

Virtual School IEP's

- Elementary - 9,186 IEPs
- Secondary - 4,502 IEPs
- Students with IEPs in the Virtual School will be supported by their OSR school principal (accommodations, modifications, reviewing and signing)
- By the end of October, full IEPs are planned to be sent to families virtually (FOI protected)

IST/SST and IPRC/SEPRC

- The OSR Principal will oversee all IST/SST and IPRC/SEPRC for their respective students in both VS and in bricks and mortar
- Meetings will be held virtually and using an AODA platform.
- VS Staff can access Regional Support

SEAC Discussion – CCAT-7

Due to the current pandemic, the September 2020-2021 school start-up has impacted CCAT7 testing that typically was administered in September.

- Discussion was held around the CCAT-7 testing of grade 3 students
 - Logistics – where to test students, particularly those in Virtual School
 - Health and Safety of students and staff
 - A subcommittee of volunteers will meet early in October to discuss this issue further

Budget (Craig Snider):

- Impact of enrolment changes
- 7,882 Students moved to virtual schools
- 2,921 Students moved to In-person schools
- If the projected enrolments of October 13 come in as planned, the financial impact to the GSN will be approximately \$40M

- Impact of changes to FSL enrolments not known at this time
- ESL enrolment in line with revised projections used for budget

Covid PPE and Safety Update (Steve Shaw)

- COVID-19 Mask Procedure (PR730) was shared

Nurses and cleaners

- TPH has hired an additional 70 nurses to support schools. Each is supporting between 10 to 15 schools. (Not employees of TDSB)
- As part of the plan to provide enhanced cleaning of high touch surfaces, the Board committed to hiring an additional 224.5 FTE caretaking staff
- To date, the Board has hired 100 additional part time cleaners

Hepa filters

- Board is currently looking to source HEPA filters for classrooms with no mechanical ventilation
- Will be allocated to Q5 schools first and then to other schools as resources allow

Other Business

This meeting was live streamed and posted on the SEAC website.

Part C: Ongoing Matters

Nil

Report Submitted by: Lianne Dixon