



SEAC's KEY VALUES:
Accountability
Communication
Honesty
Positive Climate
Respect

**HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
AGENDA
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, June 15, 2016**

Location: Education Centre (Room 308, Third Level)
[20 Education Court, Hamilton, ON)

7:00 p.m.

- 1. Call to Order** J. Colantino
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes – May 25, 2016**
- 4. Business Arising from the Minutes**
- 5. Members' Update** Members
- 6. Superintendent's Update** S. Woon
- 7. Correspondence**
 - (a) Autism Ontario (H-W Chapter) – New representative on HWDSB SEAC **[for approval]**
 - (b) Community Living Hamilton – New representative on HWDSB SEAC **[for approval]**
 - (c) District School Board of Niagara - Ministry of Children and Youth Services' Goal to Reduce Wait Time for Children on the Autism Spectrum
- 8. Other Business**

[IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND, PLEASE ADVISE CHIT REVILLA AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE –
905-527-5092, EXT. 2273 or e-mail: crevilla@hwdsb.on.ca]

Future SEAC Meeting Dates for 2016-2017 School Year – to be announced

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
2014-2018 MEMBERSHIP**

ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE BOARD

Trustees:

Judy Colantino	Chair
Lita Barrie	Vice-Chair

Alex Johnstone (Wards 11 & 12)
905-5157082
Fax: 905-5212539
[c/o Director's Office]
ajjohnst@hwdsb.on.ca

Larry Pattison (Ward 3)
289-6892870
Fax: 905-5212539
[c/o Director's Office]
lpattiso@hwdsb.on.ca

MEMBERS OF LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS/ORGANIZATIONS

Association for Bright Children of Ontario

Susan Guzina
Ph: 905-5609658
abcguzina@gmail.com

Rina Rodak (Alternate)
Ph: 905-5285364
rsrodak@gmail.com

Autism Ontario (H-W Chapter)

Barbara Reeves
H: 905-6289131
rreeves1@cogeco.ca

Mary Orlik (Alternate)
mary.orlik@hotmail.com

CNIB Hamilton

Susi Owen
C: 905-9796602
H: 905-6437857
s.owen@hotmail.ca

Lisa Tyrrell (Alternate)
B: 905-5288555, ext. 5317
Fax: 905-5279536
lisa.tyrrell@cnib.ca

Community Living Hamilton

Fran Doodeman
B: 905-5280281, ext. 243
Fax: 905-5285156
fdoodeman@clham.com

Down Syndrome Association of Hamilton

Judy Colantino
H: 905-3855022
judycolantino@hotmail.com

John Sanges (Alternate)
jsanges@sourcecable.net

Hamilton FASD Parent & Caregiver Support Group

Mark Courtepatte
Catherine McFarland (Alternate)
B: 905-6280055
hamilton.fasd@gmail.com

Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Community Care Access Centre (CCAC)

Bernadine Nabuurs
B: 905-5238600, ext. 2150
Fax: 905-5748852
bernadine.nabuurs@hnhb.ccac-ont.ca

Lynwood Charlton Centre

Lynn Vanderbrug
B: 905-3891361, ext. 235
Fax: 905-3898765
lvanderbrug@lynwoodcharlton.ca

McMaster Children's Hospital Developmental Pediatrics and Rehabilitation Portfolio

Jenny McEwen-Hill
B: 905-5212100, ext. 74457
Fax: 905-5212636
hillj@hhsc.ca

The Children's Aid Society of Hamilton

Lorraine Sayles
B: 905-5221121, ext. 6264
Fax: 905-5726465
lsayles@hamiltoncas.com

VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children

Lita Barrie
H: 905-5277796
B: 905-5463200, ext. 3230
lita.barrie@gmail.com

Kim Kurceba (Alternate)
Ph: 289-2860881
Kim.kurceba@live.ca

Member at Large:

P.A.L.S. – Parent Advocacy Learning and Support Network

Tracy Sherriff
H: 905-9787784
p.a.l.s@hotmail.com

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
2014-2018 MEMBERSHIP**

BOARD OFFICIALS

Shelley Woon
Superintendent of Leadership and Learning
905-5275092, ext. 2625
swoon@hwdsb.on.ca

John Whitwell
Principal of Special Education Services
905-5275092, ext. 2671
jwhitwel@hwdsb.on.ca

EMPLOYEE GROUPS

Hamilton-Wentworth Elementary Teachers' Local
Tania Kerr, Vice-President of HWETL
HWETL Office
905-3182771
Fax: 905-3182550
hwetl-vpe@sourcecable.net

Hamilton-Wentworth Principals' Council - Elementary
Jennifer Robertson-Heath
Franklin Road Elementary School
905-3884731
Fax: 905-3883213
jrheath@hwdsb.on.ca

Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, District 21
Jeremy Abrahams
905-5275092, ext. 2639
(voice mail only)
jabraham@hwdsb.on.ca

Hamilton-Wentworth Principals' Council - Secondary
Brent Monkley
Waterdown District High School
905-6896692, ext. 3001
Fax: 905-6893413
bmonkley@hwdsb.on.ca

Chit Revilla, *Recording Secretary*
Director's Office
905-5275092, ext. 2273
Fax: 905-5212539
crevilla@hwdsb.on.ca

Revised: 2016 05 18

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, May 25, 2016 (Room 308, Education Centre)

Those present:

Judy Colantino, Down Syndrome Association of Hamilton and SEAC Chair
 Lita Barrie, VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children and SEAC Vice-Chair
 Mark Courtepatte, Hamilton FASD Parent & Caregiver Support Group
 Fran Doodeman, Community Living Hamilton
 Jenny McEwen-Hill, McMaster Children's Hospital Developmental Pediatrics and Rehabilitation Portfolio
 Bernadine Nabuurs, Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Community Care Access Centre
 Barbara Reeves, Autism Ontario (H-W Chapter)
 John Sanges, Down Syndrome Association of Hamilton and SEAC Chair (alternate)
 Lorraine Sayles, The Children's Aid Society of Hamilton

In attendance:

Shelley Woon, Superintendent of Leadership and Learning
 John Whitwell, Principal of Special Education Services
 Tania Kerr, Hamilton-Wentworth Elementary Teachers' Local
 Brent Monkley, Hamilton-Wentworth Principals' Council – Secondary

Regrets:

Alex Johnstone, Trustee
 Rina Rodak, Association for Bright Children of Ontario (alternate)
 Tracy Sherriff, P.A.L.S. – Parent Advocacy Learning and Support Network
 Lynn Vanderbrug, Lynwood Charlton Centre
 Jeremy Abrahams, Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, District 21
 Jennifer Robertson-Heath, Hamilton-Wentworth Principals' Council - Elementary

1. Call to Order/Welcome

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m., welcoming everyone.

Item	Discussion/Decision
2. Approval of Agenda	On the motion of B. Nabuurs, seconded by J. McEwen-Hill, the Committee RECOMMENDS that the agenda be approved. CARRIED.
3. Approval of Minutes	On the motion of B. Reeves, seconded by F. Doodeman, the Committee RECOMMENDS that the minutes of the April 27, 2016 meeting be approved. CARRIED.
4. Business Arising from the Minutes (a) <u>Report re Student Transitions</u>	<u>Report re Student Transitions</u> Providing a brief background, Superintendent of Transitions Pam Reinholdt highlighted the following key areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Program Offerings and Student Choices ▪ Attendance ▪ Course Levels Offered and Extra Curricular ▪ Option Sheets ▪ Supports ▪ School Culture and Relationships ▪ Academic Achievement ▪ Mountain and Delta Secondary Schools ▪ 2016-2017 School Year – last year for reporting on this transition

	<p>On behalf of SEAC, the Chair thanked Superintendent Reinholdt for her time and efforts.</p> <p>The Chair voiced SEAC's appreciation and thanks for the Board's commitment and hard work in supporting the transitions of these students.</p>
<p>5. June Meeting Date</p>	<p>It was agreed that the June SEAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2016, 7:00 p.m. in Room 308 at the Education Centre.</p>
<p>6. Members' Update</p>	<p><u>Autism Ontario (H-W Chapter)</u></p> <p>B. Reeves advised that a new representative will be replacing her and a letter to HWDSB about this is forthcoming from the association.</p> <p>SEAC members expressed their thanks and appreciation to B. Reeves for her efforts and contributions at SEAC.</p> <p><u>Special Education Services</u></p> <p>Principal Whitwell highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The successful May 17th Elementary Special Olympics at Saltfleet Secondary School, noting the very high attendance. He expressed thanks and appreciation for the generous support from staff and community partners who facilitated this annual event. The Secondary Special Olympics will take place on June 7th at Mohawk College. ▪ May staffing has been completed and an update will be provided to SEAC at the next meeting. ▪ The placement process for students in special class went very well overall. Staff have been working diligently to try to problem solve a couple of situations. ▪ A recent fundraising event took place for Glenwood School. <p>To receive an update about programming at Glenwood School, the members agreed to hold a future SEAC meeting there sometime in the fall.</p> <p>Superintendent Woon's update included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Superintendent Woon facilitated a Specialized Services Advisory session with approximately 30 staff from varied roles. Charts of "Next Steps" pertaining to the Learning for All and CPS beliefs were shared with members. The group will meet three times over the 2016-2017 school year to continue to bring staff voice to planning within the Specialized Services department. ▪ On June 10th John Morris, the President of The Canadian Office and Professional Employees Union, Local 527 (COPE) and Superintendent Woon will collaboratively facilitate a meeting of approximately 25 Elementary Educational Assistants to discuss strategies and supports that are beneficial to supporting the EA role and contribute to a Positive Culture and Well-Being within the

	<p>workplace. A similar session will occur on June 29th with a group of Secondary Educational Assistants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Superintendent Woon informed the members of her participation on the provincial Special Education Committee that has been created as an outcome of the central agreement between Elementary Teachers' Federation Ontario (ETFO), Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) and the Crown. The committee is discussing issues in Special Education and generating a report of recommendations to the Minister of Education. ▪ The Special Education Plan is being updated and this will be brought to SEAC for review and consideration.
7. Monitoring Update	See Business Arising from the Minutes, item 4(a) Report re Student Transitions.
8. Correspondence	None.
9. Other Business	None.

Adjournment:

On the motion of B. Reeves, seconded by M. Courtepatte, the Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the meeting be adjourned, this being done at 8:00 p.m.

CARRIED.

rr



Tuesday, June 7, 2016

Mr. Manny Figueiredo
Director of Education
CC: Judy Colantino, SEAC Chair

Mr. Figueiredo,

Please accept this letter requesting that our member Christine Joseph Davies represent Autism Ontario on the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board SEAC.

Autism Ontario has nominated the following individual as our representative:

Member: Christine Joseph Davies
Email: cjosephdavies@gmail.com

The above is a member in good standing with our organization, a Canadian citizen, meet age requirements, resides in jurisdiction of the HWDSB public school board supporters (taxes) and is not employed by the Board.

If you have further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our office at office.hamilton@autismontario.com or 905-528-8476

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jim Martin
President
Autism Ontario Hamilton-Wentworth Chapter
533 Main Street East, Hamilton Ontario

June 3, 2016

Manny Figueiredo
Director of Education
Hamilton Wentworth District School Board
20 Education Court
Hamilton, Ontario
L9A 0B9

Mr. Figueiredo,

Please note that that Fran Doodeman will be stepping down from the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) as of August 30, 2016. I am writing to request that Andrea Lewis be invited to join SEAC in Fran Doodeman's stead, representing Community Living Hamilton. I am hopeful this appointment can take place as of September 1, 2016.

Ms. Lewis can be contacted as follows:

Andrea Lewis, BA, BSW, MSW
Manager, Client Services
Community Living Hamilton
191 York Blvd.
Hamilton, ON L8R 1Y6
905-528-0281 Ext. 440
alewis@clham.com

Thank you in advance for this consideration.

Best regards,


Sherry Parsley
Executive Director

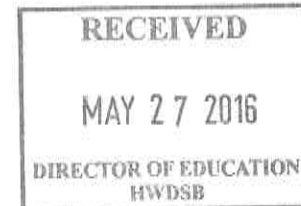


District School Board of Niagara

Achieving Success Together

191 Carlton Street, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 7P4 (905) 641-1550 Fax: (905) 685-8511

May 12, 2016



The Honorable Tracy MacCharles
Minister of Children and Youth Services
Mowat Block, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Dear Minister MacCharles:

On behalf of the Special Education Advisory Committee of the District School Board of Niagara, we would like to commend the Ministry of Children and Youth Services for investing in programs and services for children and families on the Autism Spectrum. We also support the goal to reduce wait times for families to access these services and recognize the importance of early intervention for children on the Autism Spectrum. Schools are important partners with families and we look forward to what the future holds in this area.

There are many positive aspects to this announcement; however, one issue remains a serious concern. Despite families being on the wait list, sometimes for years, many are at risk of being denied the very services that will support children reach their very best potential because of the age they will be at when these services are to be offered. While early intervention is important, it is our opinion that those families who have already been deemed eligible to be on the wait list should not be excluded. Many of these families are devastated and do not have the financial resources to be able to provide the appropriate services privately.

We ask that the Ministry of Children and Youth Services grandparent the families who are already on the wait list for Intensive Behavioural Intervention services when moving forward with the plan to reduce wait times.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Linda Morrice'.

Linda Morrice,
Chair
Special Education Advisory Committee
District School Board of Niagara

c: Ontario School Board SEAC Chairs