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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Vice-Chair</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Judy Colantino</td>
<td>Lita Barrie</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Trustees:

- 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
reeves1@cogeco.ca

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

**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

**HCAC (CCAC)**
Berndine Nabuurs
B: 905-5238600, ext. 2150
Fax: 905-5748852
bernadine.nabuurs@hnhb.ccac-ont.ca

**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

**The Children’s Aid Society of Hamilton**
Lorraine Sayles
B: 905-5221121, ext. 6264
Fax: 905-5726465
lsayles@hamiltoncas.com

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

**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

**McMaster Children’s Hospital Developmental Pediatrics and Rehabilitation Portfolio**
Jenny McEwen-Hill
B: 905-5212100, ext. 74457
Fax: 905-5212636
hillj@hhsc.ca

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

**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

**Lynwood Charlton Centre**
Lynn Vanderbrug
B: 905-3891361, ext. 235
Fax: 905-3898765
lvanderbrug@lynwoodcharlton.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

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

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Discussion/Decision</th>
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<tr>
<td>2. Approval of Agenda</td>
<td>On the motion of B. Nabuurs, seconded by J. McEwen-Hill, the Committee <strong>RECOMMENDS</strong> that the agenda be approved. <strong>CARRIED.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Approval of Minutes</td>
<td>On the motion of B. Reeves, seconded by F. Doodeman, the Committee <strong>RECOMMENDS</strong> that the minutes of the April 27, 2016 meeting be approved. <strong>CARRIED.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Business Arising from the Minutes</td>
<td>Report re Student Transitions Providing a brief background, Superintendent of Transitions Pam Reinholdt highlighted the following key areas:</td>
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<tr>
<td>(a) Report re Student Transitions</td>
<td>▪ Program Offerings and Student Choices</td>
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<td>▪ Attendance</td>
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<td>▪ Course Levels Offered and Extra Curricular</td>
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<td>▪ Option Sheets</td>
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<td>▪ Supports</td>
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<td>▪ School Culture and Relationships</td>
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<td>▪ Academic Achievement</td>
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<td>▪ Mountain and Delta Secondary Schools</td>
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<td></td>
<td>▪ 2016-2017 School Year – last year for reporting on this transition</td>
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On behalf of SEAC, the Chair thanked Superintendent Reinholdt for her time and efforts.

The Chair voiced SEAC’s appreciation and thanks for the Board’s commitment and hard work in supporting the transitions of these students.

5. June Meeting Date

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.**

6. Members’ Update

**Autism Ontario (H-W Chapter)**

B. Reeves advised that a new representative will be replacing her and a letter to HWDSB about this is forthcoming from the association.

SEAC members expressed their thanks and appreciation to B. Reeves for her efforts and contributions at SEAC.

**Special Education Services**

Principal Whitwell highlighted the following:

- 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.

To receive an update about programming at Glenwood School, the members agreed to hold a future SEAC meeting there sometime in the fall.

Superintendent Woon’s update included the following:

- 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
workplace. A similar session will occur on June 29th with a group of Secondary Educational Assistants.

- 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.
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,

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,

[Signature]

Sherry Parsley
Executive Director
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,

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

c: Ontario School Board SEAC Chairs