

## **MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**(Via MS Teams)**

**Wednesday, June 14, 2023**

**Room 180 A**

### **Present**

#### **Association Representatives – voting members**

Dawn Danko, HWDSB Chair, Trustee, Ward 7  
Nancy Silva Khan, Autism Ontario (Central West Chapter)  
Susi Owen, CNIB Hamilton and Niagara  
Tracy Sherriff, Community Living Hamilton  
Sarah Johnson, Community Living Hamilton (Alternate)  
Julie Armstrong, Centre for Diverse Learners  
Lindsay Bray, McMaster Children's Hospital Developmental Pediatrics and Rehabilitation Portfolio, SEAC Vice Chair  
Lynn Vanderbrug, Lynwood Charlton Centre  
Mark Courtepatte, FASD Parent & Caregiver Support Group  
Sabreina Dahab, Trustee, Ward 2

### **Regrets**

Judy Colantino, Down Syndrome Association of Hamilton, SEAC Chair  
Melanie Roberts, The Association for Bright Children of Ontario  
Cecile Santos-Ayrault, The Association for Bright Children of Ontario (Alternate)  
Jessica Malcew, VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children

### **Guests**

Student from Glendale Secondary School  
Meredith Strongman, Specialized Services Learning Consultant  
Vanessa Petz, Head of Learning Resources Department, Salfleet District High School  
Piero Evfremidis, ABA Consultant, Autism and Neurodevelopmental Services

### **Staff**

Peggy Blair, Superintendent of Specialized Services  
John Manzin, System Principal, Specialized Services  
Julie Anderson, System Principal, Specialized Services  
Lindsay Snell, System Principal, Specialized Services, Intervention: Reading & Writing  
Brent Monkley, Hamilton-Wentworth Principals' Council - Secondary

<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion/Decision</b>
<b>1. Welcome and Call to Order</b>	Lindsay Bray called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm welcoming everyone
<b>2. Land Acknowledgement</b>	Lindsay Bray, Vice Chair of SEAC
<b>3. Approval of Agenda</b>	<p>Change from GSN Special Education Update (Denise Dawson) to Autism Core Skills Checklist (ACSC) (Piero Evfremidis)</p> <p>On the motion of Tracy Sherriff, seconded by Julie Armstrong, the Committee recommends that the agenda be approved as changed</p> <p><b>CARRIED.</b></p>

<b>4. IDC 30-An Interdisciplinary Approach to Disability Studies and Human Rights -Summary and Feedback from Pilot</b>	<p>Meredith Strongman, Specialized Services Learning Consultant Vanessa Petz, Head of Learning Resources Department, Saltfleet District High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Brief overview of the summary and feedback from pilot schools was presented (Sir Allan MacNab, Glendale, Bernie Custis, Sherwood)</li> <li>▪ 52 students took the course, half had IEPs</li> <li>▪ Student shared their experience of the course and how valuable the learning has been</li> </ul>
<b>5. Autism Core Skills Checklist (ACSC)</b>	<p>Piero Evfremidis, ABA Consultant, Autism and Neurodevelopmental Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Guiding principles, purpose and components of the Autism Core Skills Checklist (ACSC) were shared</li> </ul>
<b>6. 23-24 Special Education Plan</b>	<p>Peggy Blair, Superintendent of Specialized Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Updates to the Plan include added information about special education staffing</li> </ul> <p>On the motion of Mark Courtepatte, seconded by Dawn Danko, the Committee recommends to the Board of Trustees, that the 23-24 Special Education Plan be approved as presented</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED.</b></p>
<b>7. Approval of the Minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ May 31, 2023</li> </ul>	<p>On the motion of Julie Armstrong, seconded by Susi Owen, the Committee recommends that the minutes be approved</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED.</b></p>
<b>8. Business Arising from the Minutes</b>	
<b>9. Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Trustees</li> <li>b) Local Association Representatives</li> <li>c) Superintendent</li> </ul>	<p><b>a) Sabreina Dahab, Trustee Ward 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Trustees passed a balanced budget at the June 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting – we overspent \$4.4 million than what was funded for special education</li> <li>▪ Trustees have capped the rental rates increase for community use of schools</li> <li>▪ 23-24 school year calendars have been approved</li> </ul> <p><b>c) Peggy Blair, Superintendent of Specialized Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Project SEARCH Graduation is on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 am at the Education Centre for Project SEARCH interns from the YMCA, YWCA and Education Centre</li> </ul>
<b>10. Correspondence</b>	
<b>11. Other Business</b>	
<b>12. Adjournment</b>	<p>On the motion of Mark Courtepatte, seconded by Nancy Silva-Khan, the Committee recommends that the meeting be adjourned, this being done at 7:11 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED.</b></p>