



Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023
Location: Muskoka Education Centre | Lindsay Education Centre
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Present: J. Balfour, D. Callan, A. Rose, D. McInerney, B. Reain, K. Irons, H. Harris, R. McHugh
Regrets: S. Bullock, R. McCracken
Staff: J. Johnston, M. Lefler, W. Browne

1 Call to Order

2 Roll Call

J. Balfour shared regrets and confirmed that a quorum was present.

3 Approval of Agenda

Moved by B. Reain, seconded by R. McHugh that the agenda be approved.
Carried.

4 Committee Action Items

4.1 Approval of the minutes of the June 6, 2023 meeting

Moved by D. McInerney, seconded by K. Irons that the minutes dated June 6, 2023 be approved.
Carried.

4.2 SEAC policy review

J. Johnston shared the Board's policy review process and the current SEAC policy. SEAC's purpose and mandates are outlined in Regulation 464/97 and few boards have a policy specific to SEAC. There was discussion about developing public committee terms of reference and a handbook to support members.

Moved by R. Hugh, seconded by D. McInerney that the Special Education Advisory Committee support the development of terms of reference and a committee handbook as part of the SEAC policy review

cycle.
Carried.

5 Administrative Updates

5.1 System Updates

J. Johnston shared the following updates:

- Administrators participated in a conference in August that featured keynote speaker, Dr. Robyne Hanley Dafoe.
- The full Special Education Review Report has been received and a presentation will be brought to SEAC at the October meeting.
- The Board has been doing a legal review of governance practices, which includes a review of committee structures, administration, and public access to committee meetings.

5.2 Department Updates

M. Lefler shared the following updates:

- In-person transition support for students and families was provided during the last weeks of August.
- The rollout of the new Special Programs IEP software is progressing smoothly.
- System class teacher professional learning took place in August.
- Additional professional learning has been planned throughout the year for SERT/special education department heads, administrators, and system class teachers, with particular focus on IEP development using the new IEP software.

6 SEAC Projects

6.1 Project priorities and work plan

- A third IEP experience survey will be distributed in early Spring to monitor progress since the previous surveys in 2018 and 2020.
- A SEAC brochure will be developed to provide to families at school special events such as meet the teacher nights.

6.2 2023-2024 presentation requests

- Special Education Review Report - October
- Autism Ontario - November
- Tiered Intervention - D. Callan - January

7 Other Business

7.1 Updates and other items for discussion

There were no other items for discussion.

7.2 Association and community news

- September is FASD Awareness Month, with September 9 globally recognized as “Light it up Red” day.
- The new FASD Bill 108 has passed first reading with the Ontario legislation
- Five Counties is starting tiered intervention at Haliburton schools in the fall. A new autism diagnosis pathway being implemented.

7.3 Future business

- Update on Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) implementation
- Discussion on Special Incidence Portion (SIP) modernization

8 Correspondence

8.1 OPSBA Submission for Fourth Review of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)

The committee discussed the submission, with focus on the language and definitions and the capital investment for accessible spaces. The submission was received for information.

8.2 Waterloo DSB letter to the Minister of Education re: SIP funding

The letter was received for information.

9 Next Meeting

Date: October 3, 2023, 5:00 p.m.
Location: Haliburton County Education Centre

10 Adjournment

Moved by B. Reain that the meeting be adjourned.
Carried.

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