

October 15, 2013
Special Education Advisory Committee:lf

PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of a meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee of the Peel District School Board, held in the Brampton Room, the H. J. A. Brown Education Centre, 5650 Hurontario Street, Mississauga, Ontario on Tuesday, October 15, 2013 at 19:05 hours.

Members present:

Barbara Byers, Fragile X Research Foundation of Canada
Nancy Bratkovic, Canadian Mental Health Association
Barbara Cyr, Association for Bright Children
Jennifer Knight, Easter Seals Ontario
Nancy Leaton, Autism Ontario Peel Chapter
Brad MacDonald, Trustee
Carol Oitment, Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario
Dorothy Peddie, FASworld Canada – Peel Chapter
Lorraine Yuill, Learning Disabilities Association of Mississauga

Absent: (apologies received*)

Stan Cameron, Trustee*
Shelley Foster, VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children
Meredith Johnson, Trustee*
Wes McDonald, VIEWS for Blind and Visually Impaired Children
Ann Smith, Brampton-Caledon Community Living*
Mary Wright, Peel Caring Network for Challenged Kids

Also present:

Sue Lawton, Trustee

Administration:

Louise Sirisko, Superintendent, Special Education Support Services (Executive Member)
Joy Uniack, Superintendent of Education (Executive Backup Member)

Lorelei Fernandes, Board Reporter

1. Approval of Agenda

SE-74, moved by Barbara Cyr, that the agenda be approved.

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2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

3. Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting, September 17, 2013

SE-75, moved by Jennifer Knight, that the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting, held September 17, 2013, be approved.

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4. Consultation: The Journey Ahead and the Promotion of Principals and Vice-Principals

Superintendent of Special Education Support Services, Louise Sirisko, stated that as indicted at the last Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, the focus is on two major topics, one of which is consultations on the promotion of principals and vice-principals. She noted that SEAC members were provided a document with readiness criteria as well as a document with samples of leadership domains, to share with their associations and gather input. Superintendent Sirisko invited Gillian Kajganich, Coordinator for Special Programs, to lead members into a group discussion.

With the help of slides, Gillian Kajganich explained the group activity which included sharing of ideas and feedback, as well as discussion on the Promotion Process: Guiding Questions for Reflection form, which was e-mailed to members earlier. Members shared their main ideas regarding knowledge and skills required, which included: Special Education Part 2 knowledge and the ability to demonstrate that it has been applied; knowledge of IPRC process and understanding readiness of the family and the child; dialogue between SEAC members and principals while advocating for learners and input from parents into IPRC process. Gillian Kajganich collected the feedback forms, which will be collated and brought back to the next SEAC meeting.

SE-76, moved by Nancy Leaton, that the report re Consultation: The Journey Ahead and the Promotion of Principals and Vice Principals, be received.

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5. Consultation: The Ministry of Education Building the Next Phase

Louise Sirisko reviewed background information indicating that the Minister of Education is reaching out to stakeholders in order to set the direction for education in the years ahead. She advised that the Ministry has requested feedback on this consultation document and comments will be submitted to the Ministry electronically in November 2013.

Gillian Kajganich drew attention to the seven questions in the report, which she circulated. SEAC members then worked in pairs to provide input into the consultation process around the Ministry of Education Building the Next Phase. Following this activity, Gillian Kajganich collected the feedback forms.

SE-77, moved by Barbara Cyr, that the report re Consultation: The Ministry of Education Building the Next Phase, be received.

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6. Updated Special Education Advisory Committee Member List

Members reviewed the list. Contact information for Dorothy Peddie, Nancy Leaton and Joy Uniac will be corrected and the list will be updated.

SE-78, moved by Dorothy Peddie, that the Updated Special Education Advisory Committee Member List, be received.

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7. Draft Special Education Advisory Committee Annual Calendar 2013-2014

Louise Sirisko responded to a member's query regarding the topic of EQAO listed for the month of October, and advised that the November copy of the Draft Annual Calendar will be updated.

SE-79, moved by Barbara Cyr, that the Draft Special Education Advisory Committee Annual Calendar 2013-2014, be received.

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8. Communications

SE-80, moved by Lorraine Yuill, that the following communications, be received:

1. Letter from Ministry of Education, Trillium Demonstration School regarding Resource Services Teacher's Role
2. Ministry of Education regarding IEP Provincial Trends Report
3. Memorandum from the Ministry of Education regarding Administrative Re-alignments
4. Community Living Ontario Flyers regarding Action4Inclusion and "Together We're Better" Children's Contest

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9. Response of Administration to Former Questions

Arising from the last minutes, Item 11, Question Period, regarding personal telephone numbers printed in the IPRC and ISRC brochures, Donna Zuccato, Special Education Coordinator explained that the information was taken from the SEAC members' list. She advised that the brochures will be updated shortly.

10. Question Period

Dorothy Peddie commented that the SEAC brochure is not currently on the Peel internet website and she inquired as to whether it has been on the public domain before. Barbara Cyr replied that the SEAC brochure was created for use at the Literacy Conference and has not been published on the public domain before. Dorothy Peddie asked if the brochure carried members' home phone numbers. Following discussion, it was agreed that the SEAC brochure, IPRC Guide and IEP Guide be circulated to members, to update their contact information.

11. Public Question Period

There were no public questions.

12. Further Business

1. Parent Literacy Conference

Barbara Cyr stated that the Parent Literacy Conference will be held on March 29, 2014 and she advised that SEAC has been asked if they are interested in doing a workshop. She also informed that Great Start, an information session for members of school councils, is on November 25, 2013. She reminded that, as done in the past, SEAC members can have a table, and those interested should contact her. She added that two members of each school council are invited to attend Great Start.

2. Professional Development Session

Marie Fawcett-Carter, Behavioural Coordinator, advised that one-day professional development sessions will be held on November 14 and 15, 2013 at Peel DSB's Central Board Office, by Ross Greene, author of the book "Lost at School", regarding collaborative problem solving and behavioural challenges in students. She invited SEAC members to attend.

13. Adjournment

SE-81, moved by Nancy Leaton, that the meeting adjourn (21:10 hours).

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..... Chair Secretary