



## SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC)

Thursday, March 8, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Grimsby Lincoln Room – Education Centre

### MINUTES

#### **Committee Members Present:**

Shannon MacDonald (Vice-Chair)  
Brent Beaudoin  
Amy Dunn  
Danielle Reynolds  
Stephanie McCorrison  
Nick Smith  
Jennifer Ajandi

CNIB  
VOICE  
Autism Ontario - Niagara  
Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder – ONE  
Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara Region  
Niagara Support Services  
Trustee, District School Board of Niagara

#### **Administration/Resource:**

John Dickson  
Nikki Train  
Paulette Alcox  
Karen Ferguson  
Kristin Kosh

Superintendent of Special Education  
Student Achievement Leader: Special Education  
Assistant Student Achievement Leader: Special Education  
OPC Representative: Secondary  
OPC Representative: Elementary

#### **Regrets:**

Linda Morrice (Chair), Pathstone Mental Health  
Paul Molnar, Downs Syndrome Caring Parents Niagara  
Kerry Thomas, Community Living Welland-Pelham  
Kelly Irvine-Minor, Special Education Consultant  
Paula MacKinnon, Superintendent of Education

#### **Recording Secretary:**

Terri Cook

#### **QUORUM/CALL TO ORDER**

Quorum was established and the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### **STUDENT VOICE**

Principal Mike Burns of Princess Elizabeth Public School, introduced Vice-Principal Brad Mayhew and a Grade 6 student and his family. The student shared his learning experience using the various capabilities of Assistive Technology that are provided to him through a Ministry of Education SEA claim. The committee was inspired by the student's perseverance and ability to work hard.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

In Chair Linda Morrice's absence, Vice-Chair Shannon MacDonald requested a motion to approve the Agenda of the March 8, 2018 SEAC meeting.

*Moved by Nick Smith, Seconded by Danielle Reynolds*

***"That the Agenda dated March 8, 2018, be approved as presented."***

**CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Vice-Chair MacDonald requested a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 8, 2018 SEAC meeting.

*Moved by Stephanie, Seconded by Danielle Reynolds*

***"That the Minutes dated February 8, 2018 be approved as presented."***

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no new business arising from the Minutes.

**Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA)**

**Darla Perron and Elisa Marelli**

Darla and Elisa shared a PowerPoint presentation (attached) explaining how a targeted approach using proactive strategies can empower independence and success in all students.

**Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder – One (FASD)**

**Danielle Reynolds**

Danielle provided an overview of FASD and stressed the importance of awareness regarding the alarming impact on the fetus when females consume alcohol prior to, and during pregnancy.

**ASSOCIATION AND BOARD INFORMATION****OPC Representative: Secondary**

**Karen Ferguson**

Secondary school grade 9 students will be writing the Ontario Schools Student Literacy Test (OSSLT) on April 10.

**FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER – ONE**

**Danielle Reynolds**

No report

**Autism Niagara Chapter**

**Amy Dunn**

Planning is underway for the 2018 Raise the Flag for Autism event. They are hoping to have 12 municipalities and all schools in Niagara participating on Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. The Trivia Night was very successful, and the annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup> - \$160 pp/\$620 per foursome. This is a large fundraiser for them and proceeds help subsidize the price of camp and programs for their families and adults on the spectrum.

**Niagara Support Services**

**Nick Smith**

The Children's Movement Program begins its next session April 5<sup>th</sup>. Registration closes March 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara**

**Stephanie McCorrison**

The SMART Math Program will be offered in St. Catharines this spring. Spring and summer program applications open March 19 (spring spots are very limited).

**TRUSTEE, DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA****Jennifer Ajandi**

The Mid-Year BIPSA was presented at the last Board meeting. Trustee Ajandi represented a team at Autism Ontario "Niagara's Trivia Night" and in April, will be attending the Children/Youth Mental Health Conference and the Strength, Stress and Resiliency conference.

**VOICE****Brent Beaudoin**

Dress Loud Day is the first Friday of Speech and Hearing Month (May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018). The event is supported by VOICE for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children. The 26<sup>th</sup> annual VOICE conference is scheduled for Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at Centennial College in Scarborough.

**OPC Representative: Elementary****Kristen Kosh**

Gr 3 and Gr 6 students are working through their mid-year EQAO practice testing. The staffing process is underway.

**Assistant Student Achievement Leader: Special Education****Paulette Alcox**

The iSOCIAL Program, building social skills for students with Autism ages 5-9 will be offered from 4-5:30 pm at eight school sites between April 1 and May 31.

**Student Achievement Leader: Special Education****Nikki Train**

Special Education Support Services has offered many professional development opportunities to staff on the PD Day on February 16<sup>th</sup>. All EA's will have taken a re-certification course for their Non-Violent Crisis Intervention certificate this year.

**Superintendent of Special Education****John Dickson**

Superintendent Dickson shared that all DSBN schools have been registered for Raise the Flag event on April 3 and will be receiving ribbons to promote donations in support of Autism.

**CNIB****Shannon MacDonald**

March Break Camp runs March 12-March 16 inclusive. Brogan Freeborn is the Program Lead for Beyond the Classroom and Youth Empowerment for the CNIB Ontario West Region.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no additional correspondence.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

There were no questions.

**ADJOURNMENT**

***Moved by Amy Dunn, Seconded by Brent Beaudoin***

<b><i>"That the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting adjourn."</i></b>
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**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) PowerPoint

**NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. – Grimsby-Lincoln Room