



## Durham Catholic District School Board

**MINUTES** of the **SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE** meeting of Durham Catholic District School Board which was held in the North Board Room of the Catholic Education Centre, 650 Rossland Road West, in Oshawa on **Tuesday, April 10, 2018.**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>With Regrets</b>	<b>Absent</b>
L. Smart (Chair)	J. Bowyer	D. Mullane	
V. Adamo	R. Putnam	A. Shiels	
C. Nosseir	H. Killoran		
M. LePage	C. Baetz		
J. McCafferty	S. Phoenix		
L. Cook			

### **S.E.A.C. Representatives**

B. Larson, APSSP  
C. Plouffe, OECTA Secondary  
M. Lacy, Principal/Vice Principal Association

### **CALL TO ORDER**

#### **Item a.1 Memorials and Prayer**

Chair Smart called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and offered the opening prayer. She welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CONSIDERATIONS OF MOTIONS**

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

#### **Item e.1 Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

None

### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Item g.1 Special Education Budget**

**R. Putnam**

Superintendent Putnam provided an overview of the Multi-Year Budget Framework and advised that it has been a positive year. Although there are some system pressures, the overall budget is very supportive of special education.

**Item g.2      Together for All: Equity and Inclusive Education  
Three Year Action Plan****J. Bowyer**

Superintendent Bowyer presented the Durham Catholic District School Board's Together for Hope and Together for All Three-Year Action Plans. The Together for All is the Board's three-year Equity and Inclusive Education action plan. The plan sets out clear goals and priorities in the next three years and clearly states the actions for this school year. One of the goals for this year was the development of a three year plan to address students and families impacted by poverty. The plan is entitled Together for Hope. Superintendent Bowyer provided copies of each action plan to the Committee members for their review and feedback, if any and responded to questions as they arose.

**DELEGATIONS**

None

**NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

None

**STAFF REPORTS****Item k.1      Coordinator's Report – H. Killoran**

"So you want to be a PST"

We hosted a session for teachers interested in learning more about the role of the Program Support Teacher on March 28. We had 15 enthusiastic participants attend. As part of the posting process, we will be interviewing for PST rosters at the end of this month.

World Autism Awareness Day

Elementary and Secondary schools recognized World Autism Awareness Day on Tuesday, April 3rd. Program Support Teachers were asked to share the Autism Awareness packages with their schools, which were provided by the DCART members. Age appropriate activities and videos were presented to the students. Each school has decorated their unique and creative Light It Up Blue Display in the front foyer and they look great! A prize will be given to the most creative display.

**Item k.1**      **Coordinator's Report – H. Killoran** (cont'd)

## Autism Pilot

Participants are half-way through the 19 modules and have been learning new skills in ABA. Professional Learning Community sessions are being developed to reflect the new learning and how to integrate these concepts into the IEP, by sharing best practices within the participants' school communities.

## Friendship Lab

Our after school social skills development program, "The Friendship Lab" is now in its fourth week at two sites, Sir Albert Love CS and St. Francis de Sales CS. This program targets friendship-making and perspective-taking skills for students with an autism spectrum disorder.

## PEERS

We are now offering a social skills program for students in Gr. 7-12+. The program runs out of Father Leo J. Austin once a week and runs until the end of June. Currently, we have 10 students in the program for 1.5 hour sessions.

## Mental Health Update

Children's Mental Health Week will take place from May 7-13 this year. As in previous years, a Resource Package is being developed and will be available to schools in advance of the week.

**Item k.2**      **Superintendent's Report - J. Bowyer**

The budget process is well underway as Superintendent Putnam shared in his budget overview.

2018/19 school year budget was very supportive of special education:

- Money to support mental health workers in secondary schools – this money must be spent on professional staff; we will be looking at increasing our compliment of SW in order to provide more time for each of our secondary schools
- Money to support multi-disciplinary teams – awaiting the technical memo to see how this money can be spent. We will be looking to increase our support to DCART and BRT
- Money to address waitlists for assessments was announced as an application-based program; we will be waiting for more information on what this will look like – money to be delivered over three years
- Increase to the Behaviour Expertise Amount – to include ABA training amounts - small amount of money; but appreciated
- Increase in the allocation to Special Incident Portion amounts for next year – to recognize the increase costs in staffing; maximum amount is going to increase by 40% (\$27,000 to \$38,016)

**Item k.2**      **Superintendent's Report - J. Bowyer** (cont'd)

- Increase in the Safe and Accepting Schools amount – to recognize the work we need to do with our staff on Mental Health and Well Being, Safe and Accepting Schools, Healthy Schools and Equity and Inclusive Education.
- Continuation of the after school social skills development program for students with a diagnosis of ASD
- Continuation of our ABA Pilot for educational assistants; programming had gone very well
- Preparing for success in High School -guidance counsellors in grade 7 and 8 to help students prepare for their transition to high school

Violent Threat Risk Assessment training is taking place this week. Traumatic Events System training is also occurring this week for any principal who hasn't been trained and the remainder of our vice-principals. This training will help schools understand the impact of traumatic event on systems (classes, schools, boards, communities, etc.)

**ASSOCIATION REPORTS****Learning Disabilities Association of Durham Region – L. Smart**

Monthly LDA Durham Meeting: Sagonaska Provincial Demonstration School

LDA Ontario in partnership with Integra presenting Partnering with Schools for Student Success: Effective Parent Advocacy. Seven sessions online

University Of Toronto Transition Day

**Grandview Children's Centre – C. Nosseir**

Spring Into Literacy Conference - Saturday 21 April 2018

<https://grandviewkids.ca/programs-services/programs/speech-language-pathology/spring-into-literacy/>

Let's Get Active and Active Start programs

These programs are designed for clients with intellectual disabilities including autism, with a focus on physical literacy and social participation skills. Want to register? Visit: <https://gccrecreation.grandviewcc.ca/Programs.aspx>

Registraton is now open for Little Critter Summer Camp programs, 3:1 ratios, located at Grandview Oshawa <https://gccrecreation.grandviewcc.ca/Programs.aspx>

**ASSOCIATION REPORTS** (cont'd)

**Special Olympics – L. Cook**

Special Olympics Spring Sports Program registration. Oshawa  
Sunday April 29, 2018 11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Glen Stewart Clubhouse

Ajax – ARC Industries, Thursday May 3 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Email for more info: [greaterdurham.info@specialolympicsontario.ca](mailto:greaterdurham.info@specialolympicsontario.ca)

**Cystic Fibrosis Canada – Durham Chapter – M. LePage**

April 15 – Outrun CF – go to outruncf.ca for info

June 7 – Strokes for Life Golf Tourney (Oshawa Golf & Curling Club)

May – Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month

May 27 – Walk to make CF History (Canada's Wonderland)

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**INQUIRIES AND MISCELLANEOUS**

None

**PENDING ITEMS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

The closing prayer was offered by V. Adamo

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Lynne Smart  
Chair, Special Education Advisory Committee

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Janine Bowyer  
Superintendent of Education

Recording Secretary: Candice Cavalier