

YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Guided by Gospel Values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

MINUTES of the SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A regular meeting was held in a hybrid format in person at CEC, 320 Bloomington Rd. W and virtually over Google Meet on **January 13, 2025** at **7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Committee Members: A.Carter*, N, Byrne*, A. Connolly*, A. Grella, M. Iafrate*, D. Legris*,
S. Leckey*, J. Man*, N. Welch*, J. Wigston, Y. Zhou*

Association Representatives: J. Akleh*, M. Marcello*

Administration: A.Cabraja, L.Lausic, J. Powers, E. Strano

Regrets: M. Xue

Recording: C. Mong*

Guest Presenters: J. Duff, CDA, Student Services, YCDSB
J. Lee, Manager of ABA & Behaviour Resource Services YCDSB
I. McCarthy, ABA Associate, Student Services YCDSB
J. Neiman, ABA Associate, Student Services YCDSB
M. Prinzo, Manager, Mental Health Services YCDSB

*Denotes virtual attendance

CALL TO ORDER / ATTENDANCE

1.0 Prayer and Land Acknowledgement

2.0 Roll Call

3.0 Approval of New Material NIL

4.0 Approval of Agenda January 13, 2024 Motion– Agenda approved (Legris / Byrne)

5.0 Approval of the Previous Minutes Motion - Minutes approved (Legris / Byrne)

6.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes NIL

7.0 SEAC Report to Board Motion – Report Received (Wigston / Byrne)

8.0 Moment of Inspiration *The ACC team together with students from various elementary schools put together a heartwarming Christmas video.*

9.0 Presentations / Discussions

9.1 Mental Health Updates

- M. Prinzo, Mental Health Manager shared various tier 1 to tier 3 programs delivered in term one. The presentation also highlighted collaboration with other committees around Mental Health related topics

9.2 ABA Team Pilot Projects

- The ABA team highlighted the pilot project currently taking place in two elementary schools. The Secret Agent Society social-emotional program focuses on: instruction following skills, tolerance skills, functional communication skills and friendship skills. In term 2, two additional schools will take part in the program.

9.3 Early Facilitation Parent Information Evening

- YCDSB invites parents to attend our in-person information session to learn about our Special Education Programs and Services. The event will be held on January 30, 2025 at the Catholic Education Centre at 7:00pm

9.4 Student Services Monthly Update

- Superintendent Powers presented a recap of programs and services delivered by the Student Services department over the last month, see page 3.

10.0 Action Item(s)

Nil

11.0 Discussion Item(s)

Nil

13.0 Information Item(s)

12.1 SEAC Meeting Dates

12.2 Association News: LDAYS Monthly Report & Flyers
Items Received (Byrne / Carter)

14.0 Future Item(s)

Nil

15.0 Next Meeting: Monday February 10, 2025 @ 7:00 p.m. in a hybrid format over Google Meet and at CEC Board office, 320 Bloomington Rd W Aurora ON.

16.0 Motion to adjourn at 8:06 p.m.

Meeting adjourned (Legris / Byrne)

9.4 Student Services Monthly Update

Elementary Special Education

In December, both ELeMentary and Secondary, Special Education Program Consultants and Coordinators trained over 300 special education teachers and 130 administrators on the new RISE platform. RISE is our new and exciting software that will integrate workflows for all departments and all processes managed by Student Services.

A total of 10 training sessions were held over a period of 3 weeks in late November and December. Migration of data took place over the Christmas break and teachers have begun working on the new platform as of today!

Teachers will be engaging with the new platform to complete Report Card Addendums for term/semester 1 and begin updating student IEPs for term 2. Consultants will be offering virtual drop-in sessions to support staff in this migration throughout the month of January..

ILITs are wrapping up programs in their current school assignments and are in the midst of completing post-tests with the students they have serviced throughout the first term. We look forward to

sharing results with SEAC in the coming months.

In January we will continue to inservice teachers who are new to the special education role. We will be offering training on the STAR Program which has seen great success with our students with ASD. We will also be offering an Intro to Lexia for new teachers as well as an additional session on RISE for teachers and administrators who are new to the role as of 2025.

Secondary Special Education

I am very excited to share that the secondary Student Services Team will be hosting the *Life After High School Symposium* for Parents/Guardians of students with intellectual disabilities. This symposium will take place here at the CEC on May 8th and will host various community day programs, and agencies that offer programs and services to students with disabilities after they graduate at 21.

Our keynote speakers are representatives from YSSN, DSo and Passport funding. If any of our SEAC organizations are interested in participating in this event, please contact Linda Lausic for more information. I would also like to invite Trustee Grella, our SEAC Chair to say a few words on behalf of SEAC that night. At our next SEAC in February, I will be sharing the official flyer for this event with all of you.

On January 9th, we were very lucky to have been given the opportunity to offer a training session on the topic of Special Education to all of our secondary Vice Principals. Coordinator Linda Lausic provided an overview of legislation, policies and procedures in Special Education and she made sure to include information about the importance of SEAC.