

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 virtually on Google Meet on **April 6, 2022** at **7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Committee Members: S. Byrne, B. Drenoski, M. Iafrate, N. Lai, D. Legris, J. Man,
E. Morgillo, D. Paluzzi, N. Welch, J. Wigston,
Association Representatives: F. Di Marco, M. Oyston
Administration: A. Cabraja, D. Candido, L. Lausic, E. Miceli-Bush
Regrets: S. Gatti, D. Giuliani
Recording: C. Mong
Guests: L. Van Eyk, *Elementary Special Education Consultant, YCDSB*
C. Ruffolo – DeFilippis, *Supervisor, Physical Management Services, YCDSB*

1.0 CALL TO ORDER / ATTENDANCE

2.0 Prayer and Land Acknowledgement

3.0 Approval of New Material

Nil – No New Material

4.0 Moment of Inspiration

Presentation highlighting Holy Name CES week long campaign for Autism Awareness. The school recognizes every student's abilities through support, advocating and education.

5.0 Approval of Agenda April 6, 2022

Motion – Agenda approved (Morgillo / Legris)

6.0 Approval of the Minutes March 7, 2022

Motion - Minutes approved (Lai / Byrne)

7.0 SEAC Report to Board

Report 2022:04 – **March 2022**

Items Received (Man / Paluzzi)

8.0 Information Items

8.1 Board Agenda

- March 29, 2022

Items Received (Man / Paluzzi)

9.0 Correspondence

Nil

10.0 Presentations / Discussions

10.1 Kindergarten Pilot Project Update

- From November to February 6 school completed the first round. The project received positive response based on 2 data collection methods: COPM and satisfaction questionnaire. *Slide deck attached.*

10.2 CAR Report

- Student Services in collaboration with the Information Systems department launched an electronic attendance system for students accessing core resource room in a 3 phase approach from November 2021 to September 2022. *Slide deck attached.*

10.3 SEAC Letterhead

- Samples will be created to be shared with the committee at a later meeting.

10.4 Special Education Plan

- The Student Services team is working on updating and streamlining the document to make it user friendly.

10.5 Special Education Grant Funding

- CFO C.McNeil will present at the May 9, 2022 SEAC meeting.

10.6 Status of Exceptional Student learning during Covid -19

- Superintendent Candido provided an update of Student Services initiatives to support exceptional learners during Covid-19

11.0 Business Arising

12.0 Action Items

13.0 Association Reports

- Autism Ontario: Now offering after school art classes [link](#) to register and family yoga classes [link](#) to register
- Community Living: [Online version](#) of the Access newsletter Spring 2022
- Easter Seals: March is Easter Seals Month: Please visit their [website](#) for more information.
- Inclusion Action: Inclusive Education as the Foundation for Inclusive Communities: Reflections on the 25th Anniversary of the Eaton Decision and the Future of Inclusive Education in Ontario.

14.0 Items for Future Agendas

- Budget Presentation
- Spring Census Follow up
- APT role
- SEAC Letterhead drafts
- SEAC Banner

15.0 Next Meeting: Monday May 9, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m. Virtually over Google meet

16.0 Motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned (Paluzzi / Morgillo)

Kindergarten Pilot Project Update

“Children need to express what they see and learn through drawing, writing and effective use of tools.”





- Six schools participated (Nov-Feb). (In March -7 schools)
- Teachers chose one to two goals to work on.
- Goals identified included improving:
 - tool use (scissors, pencils)
 - conventions of print
 - letter formation
 - printing their names
 - dressing skills
 - snack/lunch independence
 - focus and attention (self-regulation)



Data Collection

Canadian Occupational Performance Measure (COPM)

Rating Scale used pre and post project

- teachers rated performance and satisfaction for goal areas.

COPM results indicated an increase in both performance and satisfaction of identified goals addressed



Satisfaction Questionnaire

- How would you rate your overall experience with the Kindergarten Pilot Project? (1-5 rating)
- Were your students responsive to the strategies presented? (Y/N)
- Were the materials and resources presented helpful? (Y/N)
- Were the strategies easily implemented into your school day? (Y/N)
- Would you be interested in participating in this program again? (Y/N)

Results: schools in Fall/Winter session completed: all rated program as a '5' (outstanding) and all answered 'Yes' to remaining questions



Feedback

“This pilot project was amazing. Michelle was so helpful and patient while going through each activity and why it was important. This is something that should be presented to all kindergarten teachers on a PA day. It’s the most helpful for my practice. Would love to do this again and have a different focus!”

“I sincerely appreciated the opportunity to participate in this pilot project. My students enjoyed the activities and were responsive to the strategies that we implemented. If the projects continues we would be interested and happy to be part of it again. Thank you for all the strategies!”



Feedback

“Suggestions made by the OT with respect to gross and fine motor skills, self regulation and pencil grip were implemented and were successful in showing growth in these areas of concern.”

“Several of the tools brought in to the classroom for students to use are now being purchased by admin so that we can continue to use them with future classes. Overall, this was a very positive and beneficial experience for both students and teacher”.



Next Steps

- Continue with Spring session
- Continue to collect data
- Plan for next year's implementation (if staffing allows)



York Catholic District School Board

Core Attendance Register

CAR

A Secondary Special Education Initiative





Rationale for CAR

- ❑ After a 2015 audit of YCDSB secondary Special Education processes/procedures by the Regional Internal Audit Team (RIAT), a significant gap was identified in the lack of an automated student attendance system for tracking student access and use of Special Education services in the Core Resource Room.
- ❑ The audit report recommended that use of a paper attendance system in the Core Resource room should be replaced by an electronic attendance system which would serve to increase student safety given that their whereabouts would be tracked more closely and accurately.



Cross-Departmental Collaboration



**Information Systems Department
Special Education Departments**



Development of CAR

- ❑ From March 2018 to November 2021, the Student Services Department, in collaboration with the Information Systems Department, worked on designing, developing and testing a solution to include the use of a chromebook and scanner to monitor student attendance in the Core Resource room.
- ❑ CAR was developed as an application used to electronically capture the students who use the Core room, report the specific amount of Special Education direct teaching/support provided to each student, and to capture the areas of focus for each student visit to the Core room.



CAR Application



CORE Attendance Register (CAR)

Free-form Snip

Please Log In

User Name:

*

Password:

*

Log In



CAR Application

Room Number 107

Student Barcodes

Icon Legend

Manual Check-In

CORE Room Closures

Date/Time of Core Attendance: 3/7/2022



Last Refresh Time 04:55 PM



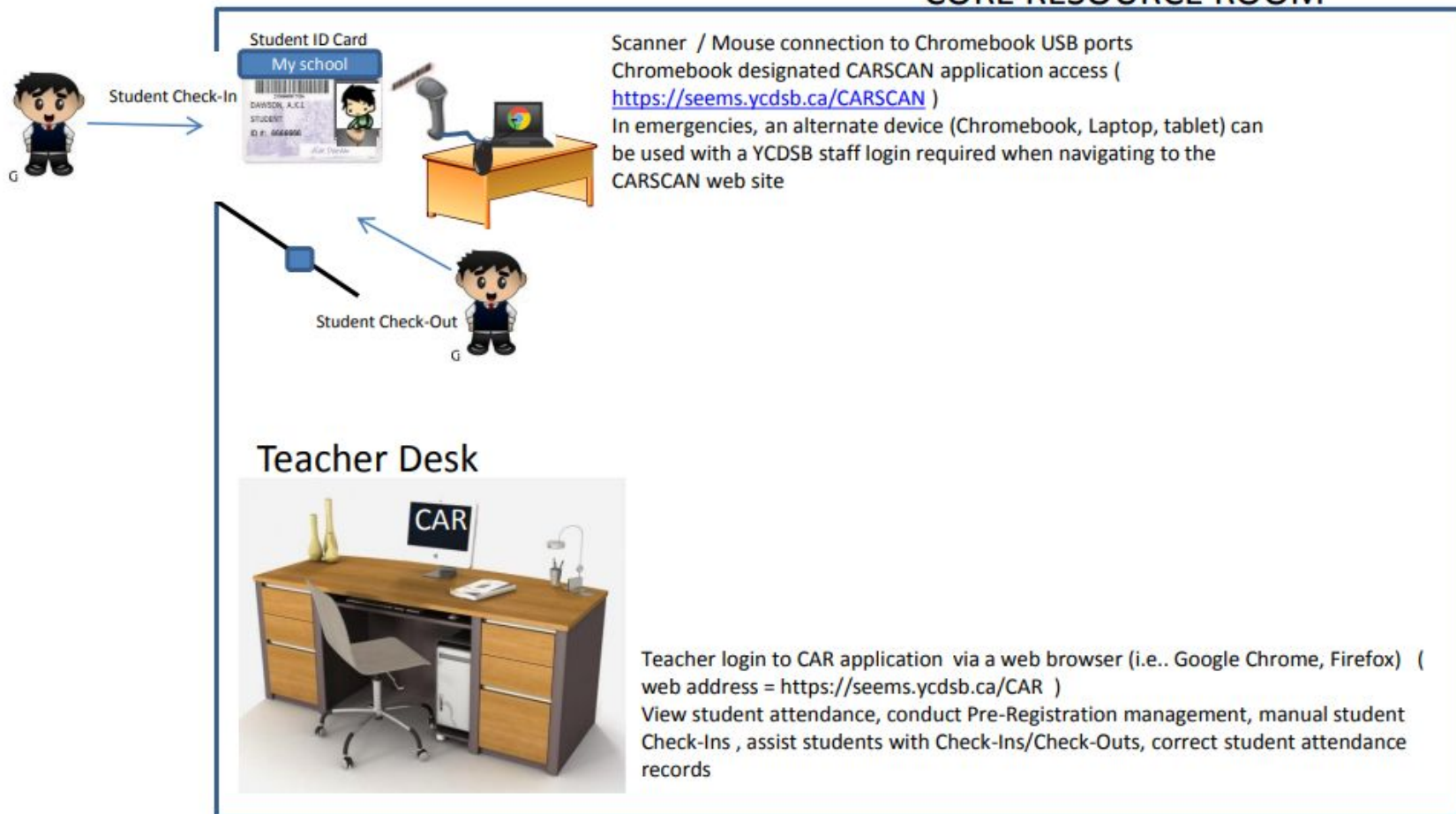
Select a student to show their Core Res.room attendance history

				Per.1		Per.2		Per.3		Per.4	
				8:15AM	8:55AM	9:35AM	10:15AM	10:55AM	11:57AM	1:00PM	1:38PM
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EDIT	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	8:55AM	9:35AM	10:15AM	10:55AM	11:57AM	1:00PM	1:38PM	2:15PM
				5	3	1	0	3	2	2	2

CAR in Action

CORE RESOURCES ROOM CONFIGURATION

CORE RESOURCE ROOM





CAR Implementation Timeline



November 2021-January 2022
2 Pilot Schools



February 2022
8 schools



September 2022
5 schools