

YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

We are a Catholic Learning Community of collaborative partners, called to serve one another by being committed to and accountable for quality learning by all with Jesus as our inspiration.

MINUTES of the SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A regular meeting was held on **November 9, 2015** at the Catholic Education Centre,
320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario commencing at **7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Committee Members:	H. Adams, K. Amenta, S. Boswick, K. Bryden, T. Ciaravella, C. Ferlisi, S. Gatti, A. Infusino-Simonetta, D. Legis (arrived 7:30 pm) E. Morgillo, B. Sheppard (arrived 7:20 pm), H. Sirola (left 9:00 pm), P. Whittam
Association Representatives:	R. Dunn, D. Flynn, P. Dignard
Administration:	M. Battista, A. Cabraja, T. D'Acunto, G. Galloro, C. Leger
Regrets:	M. Agosta, F. DiMarco, T. McNicol
Recording:	C. Brinias
Guests:	S. Gargaro, Grade 10 student @ St. Elizabeth CHS S. Gargaro, Grade 12 student @ St. Elizabeth CHS K. Gargaro, Parent Dr. G. Malvestuto-Filice, Psychologist D. Mazzotta, Trustee Richmond Hill T. Penney, Core Resource Teacher @ St. Elizabeth CHS J. Porter, Sr. Manager of Budget and Audit Services T. Romeo, Teacher Librarian @ St. Elizabeth CHS

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE

2.0 Prayer – P. Whittam

3.0 Approval of Agenda

Approval of Agenda for **November 9, 2015**

Motion – Agenda approved.

4.0 Approval of the Minutes

Approval of Minutes **October 21, 2015**

Motion – Minutes approved

5.0 SEAC Report to Board

Report **2015:08** – October 21, 2015

6.0 Information Items

6.1 Board Agenda

- **October 27 , 2015**

7.0 Correspondence

8.0 Presentations/Discussions

Student Engagement in the 21st Century Classroom

Terri Penny, Core Resource Teacher and Sabrina Gargaro, Grade 10 student at St. Elizabeth CHS shared the tricks, tools, and lessons learned working in the 21st Century Classroom.

8.2 Mental Health Update

Dr. G. Malvestuto-Filice provided a Mental Health Update on the initiatives and future direction promoting and supporting student mental health and well-being.

8.3 Special Education Budget Debrief

Jackie Porter, Sr. Manager of Budget and Audit Services provided a Special Education Budget presentation outlining 2015 – 2016 budgets and next steps for next school year.

8.4 SEAC Goals for 2015 - 2016

Motion: Kathy Bryden/Barb Sheppard

THAT the following goals be approved for SEAC for the 2015/2016 school year:

1. Scheduling and delivery of more SEAC presentations at regular meetings of the Board of Trustees in the Jan/Feb and Apr/May timeframe of 2016 to outline student successes in Special Education, and to highlight special education needs;
2. Attendance at a minimum of 3 catholic school council meetings, by teams of 2 or 3 of SEAC representatives, to present information on Special Education programs and services of the Board, and highlight student successes;
3. Evaluate the potential of creating direct hyperlinks from individual school websites within the YCDSB to the SEAC information pages on the Board's website, thereby establishing a Direct Link from school community to SEAC services;
4. Develop a coordinated strategy between SEAC and the Board of Trustees in presenting and reflecting the needs of Special Education Students of the board to the Ministry of Education.

Adopted

9.0 Business Arising

9.1 Christmas Dinner Invitation

9.2 Mental Health Conference

10.0 Action Items

10.1 Motion: Kathy Bryden / Barb Sheppard

THAT SEAC rescind Motion 10.1 from its regular meeting held on October 21, 2015 and replace it with a new motion.

Adopted

10.2 Motion: Kathy Bryden / Harold Adams

WHEREAS the Special Education budget was cut by \$1.1 million in the 2015/2016 budget of the York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB); and,

WHEREAS discussions will be taking place in early 2016 in relation to the 2016/2017 budget for the YCDSB;

Let it be resolved

THAT SEAC write a letter to the Board of Trustees indicating that Special Education Programs and Services not be subjected to any further budget cuts in the budget for the 2016/2017 school year.

Adopted

11.0 Association Reports

11.1 Learning Disabilities Association

Registration is now open for Winter programs:

- Social Skills Groups for ages 6-12. For more information please contact Nina Safary at 905-884-7933 x 25
- Strategies for Life, Mindful Transitions to Post-Secondary Program for ages 17-25. For more information contact Stephanie Gatti at 905-884-7933 x 23

12.0 Items for Future Agendas

12.1 ABA Implementation Plan - December

13.0 Next Meeting: December 7, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at Eagles Nest located at 10000 Dufferin St, Maple, ON L6A 1S3

14.0 Motion to adjourn meeting was made. Meeting adjourned: 9:45 p.m.