

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 **October 21, 2015** at the Catholic Education Centre,
320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario commencing at **7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Committee Members:	K. Amenta, S. Boswick, K. Bryden, T. Ciaravella, C. Ferlisi, S. Gatti, A. Infusino-Simonetta, D. Legris, T. McNicol (left at 8:10 pm), C. Newton
Association Representatives:	R. Dunn, D. Flynn
Administration:	O. Oloya, A. Cabraja, T. D'Acunto, G. Galloro, C. Leger
Regrets:	H. Adams, M. Agosta, F. DiMarco, B. Shepherd, P. Whittam
Recording:	C. Brinias
Guests:	D. Baggetta, Niagara University D. Barbuzzi, Niagara University O. Calouro, Niagara University M. McShine-Quao, Education Researcher D. Murgaski, Superintendent of Education: Curriculum and Assessment

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE

2.0 Prayer – C. Newton

3.0 Approval of Agenda Approval of Agenda for **October 21, 2015** **Motion** – Agenda approved.

4.0 Approval of the Minutes Approval of Minutes **September 16, 2015** **Motion** – Minutes approved

5.0 SEAC Report to Board Report **2015:08** – October 21, 2015

6.0 Information Items 6.1 Board Agenda • **September 29, 2015**

7.0 Correspondence 7.1 Upper Canada District School Board 7.2 Durham Catholic District School Board

8.0 Presentations/Discussions

8.1 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) Results

Marcelle McShine-Quao, Education Researcher and Diane Murgaski, Superintendent of Education: Curriculum and Assessment shared the results Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) results.

Handout: See PowerPoint Presentation

9.0 Business Arising

9.1 Trustee Update

Cathy Ferlisi, Trustee, YCDSB and SEAC member, shared the Board of Trustee's September 29th decision to continue the International Language Program at a cost of \$300,000 yearly.

10.0 Action Items

10.1 Motion: Diane Legris/Kathy Bryden

WHEREAS it has come to SEAC's attention that the International Language Program, which runs at a deficit of \$300,000 per year, was approved to continue at the September 29, 2015 Board Meeting and,
WHEREAS the Special Education budget was cut by \$1.1 million in 2015 and,
WHEREAS budget 2016 discussions will be taking place and,

Let it be resolved

THAT SEAC write a letter to the Board of Trustees indicating their displeasure with the Board's decision of September 29th and that Special Education not receive further budget cuts in 2016.

11.0 Association Reports

11.1 October is LD Awareness Month: "Don't DIS My Ability." Focus is on increasing knowledge and building advocacy. Presentations or displays are available throughout the year to parents, students, and educators. The Ontario Trillium Foundation has funded two new programs for ages 17-25 year olds: Strategies for Life Workshop Series, and Young Adult Support Forum. See attached flyers. Registration spots are still available. ***See Flyers attached.***

11.2 October is Autism Ontario Awareness Month. Visit www.autismontario.com/york for information and events.

11.3 Down Syndrome Website www.dsayr.ca has been revamped. Check out the Newsletter online for members, as well as useful links to resources and program information. On November 1st, the 11th Annual Buddy Walk is taking place to promote awareness in support of the National Downs Syndrome Awareness Week taking place from **November 1 to 7, 2015.**

11.4 York Support Services Network (YSSN) provides resource days for families living in York Region. ***See flyer attached***

11.5 Parents for Children's Mental Health – ***See Flyer attached***

12.0 Items for Future Agendas

12.1 Special Education Budget Debrief – November

12.2 Mental Health Update – November

12.3 ABA Implementation Plan – December

13.0 Next Meeting: November 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom.

14.0 Motion to adjourn meeting was made. Meeting adjourned: 8:30 p.m.