**SEAC Meeting**

**Date: December 7, 2020  Location: Electronic**

**Live Stream**

**Time: 7:00**

**Committee Chair (Interim)   Steven Lynette**

**Committee Vice-Chair:  Diane Montgomery**

**Approved Minutes**

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee convened on December 7 2020 at 7:00 pm through electronic means, Chair Steven Lynette chaired the meeting.

Association for Bright Children (ABC)                        Melissa Rosen

Autism Society of Ontario – Toronto                          Lisa Kness

Community Living Toronto                                       Tracey O’Regan

Epilepsy Toronto Steven Lynette

Down Syndrome Association of Toronto                   Richard Carter

Easter Seals Ontario   Aliza Chagpar

Integrated Action for Inclusion (IAI)                            Tania Principe

VIEWS for the Visually Impaired                               David Lepofsky

VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children                         Kara Agostino

Learning Disability Association Nadia Persaud

CADDAC Juanita Beaudry

LC1                                            Aline Chan Nora Green

LC2                                            Jordan Glass         Jean-Paul Ngana

LC3                                           Olga Ingrahm               Kirsten Doyle

LC4                                            Diane Montgomery      Izabella Pruska-Oldenoff,

TDSB Trustees                         Alexander Brown Michelle Aarts

Also present were:

Andrew Gold, Associate Director

Craig Snider, Associate Director

Angela Nardi-Addesa, System Superintendent, Special Education and Inclusion

Janine Small, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education

Jennifer Newby, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC4

Effie Stathopoulos, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC1

Susan Moulton, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC2

Cindy Zwicker-Reston, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC 3

Lianne Dixon, TDSB SEAC Liaison

Vanessa Pfaff – Accessiblity Coordinator

Amie Presley – Research Department

David Hafner – Speech and Language Pathology Manager

Sharon McWhirter - Speech and Language Pathology Manager

Wendy Roberts, Principal, Special Education – Virtual School

Ron Felsen, Principal, Special Education – Virtual School

Draft Minutes

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|   | **Item** | **Recommendation/****Motion** |
|   | Call to Order (quorum) - Land Acknowledgement and Welcome* Announce Live Streaming
 | <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Advisory-Committees/Statutory-Advisory-Committees/Special-Education-Advisory-Committee> |
| 2. | Approval of Agenda (including time allocation)  | Approved |
| 3. | Declarations of Possible Conflict of InterestsApproval of SEAC Minutes from November 2, 2020 | Approved with addition of materials provided to SEAC from Psychological Services and Social Work – to be added |
| 4. | Leadership and Learning Department Staff updates* Andrew Gold
* Angela Nardi-Addesa
* Craig Snider, Marisa Chu – Budget
* Amie Presley – Research Department
* David Hafner – Speech and Language Pathology Manager
* Sharon McWhirter - Speech and Language Pathology Manager
* Wendy Roberts, Principal, Special Education – Virtual School
* Ron Felsen, Principal, Special Education – Virtual School
 | **Strategic Drivers were shared with SEAC and feedback was requested.**[**DRAFT Strategic Budget Drivers 2021-2022**](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_iUm5vRVXWSBi8fB-H_hLLMKXeR9qCp6/view?usp=sharing)* Staff are in the process of presenting the draft **2021-22 Budget Strategic Drivers** at the upcoming SEAC and PIAC meetings and will be sharing a communication with  all Community Advisory Committees, with instructions to submit their feedback, through this survey form: <https://forms.gle/4vKhHAYsUzyA9XPB8>.  Feedback is required by **31 January 2021.**

**Ministry of Education Consultation on 2021-22 Education Funding Guide*** On 3 December 2020 the Ministry of Education released the [2021-22 Education Funding Guide](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gRANLSspI0i1IQPL0YUMQdEY7fsMojql/view?usp=sharing) to school boards, with a submission deadline of 15 January 2021.  Enclosed is a copy of the consultation guide and a supporting TDSB survey to collect feedback.  The feedback from the survey will help inform the TDSB budget consultation submission to the Ministry.
* Feedback submitted through the following link, by 8 January 2021, so that staff can incorporate the feedback into the draft submission for review and approval at a Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee meeting in January 2021, prior to the deadline submission.

**Student Demographics for Virtual and In-Person School as of October 13, 2020**As of October 13th, 2020, there were 240,770 students actively attending TDSB schools, either in person or virtually:* 61,835 elementary school students, or 37%, were attending the four elementary virtual schools;
* 17,717 secondary school students, or 24%, were attending the secondary virtual school;
* Overall, 79,552 students, or 33% of the TDSB student population, were attending school virtually. The other 67% were attending school in-person.

Details about demographics were provided. See appendix A (Staff Report)**Kindergarten Early Language Intervention (KELI)*** Launched in 2001 in TDSB
* 10 sites serving 320 SK students per year since 2001
* Early Intervention for at risk students due to oral language delays/disorders
* Referrals from 200 schools in priority neighborhoods based on LOI
* Pre and post testing revealed statistically significant improvement in receptive-expressive oral language, vocabulary, early literacy and social skills.
* Students less likely to require school-based resource programs, professional support services and/or special education programs during their school years.
* How do we re-imagine and modernize the KELI Program (created approx. 20 years ago)?
* The Intervention was created when Kindergarten was a half a day program, and allowed students to receive two extra half days of learning; how might the full day and every day attendance contribute to support students with language acquisition through the Kindergarten Program?
* How do we ensure KELI is reflective of the TDSB Multi-Years Strategic Priorities of Equity and Inclusion? (avoid withdrawal of students in their homeschool)

SEAC members were asked to email any input/questionsSpecial Education in Virtual Secondary School (VSS)**Structure of VSS Special Education*** VSS students come from all four Learning Centres across TDSB
* There are approximately 17,400 students enrolled in VSS as of November, 2020
* Approximately 4,700 of these students are identified as students requiring an IEP
* Two groups of IEPs: Exceptional through an IPRC and Non-exceptional IEPs
* Special Education within the VSS is overseen by two Principals, Rhonda Davy and Wendy Roberts and one Vice Principal, Andaluza Nagy

See appendix A (Staff Report)Spec Ed Update- CCAT 7**PHASE 1: CCAT 7 Testing for students in OSR Schools*** The assessment will be administered between Dec 2-10th

All grade 3 students will participate in this assessment.  If parents do not want their child to take this test, they will inform their OSR Principal**PHASE 2: CCAT 7 Testing for students in Virtual School*** An in-person assessment day on **January 15th, 2020** PD Day for elementary schools.
* A deep clean of the school/board site will happen before students enter the building.
* OSR school or Central location
* Parent Option Form
* Supervision of Students

**Special Education Appeal Board Guidelines (SEAB)**A guideline has been developed to address the concern regarding payment of the SEAB Chair and Board Nominee during a SEAB Appeal. This includes any expenses incurred while carrying out their responsibilities while representing the interests of students, the community and the Toronto District School Board (TDSB). See Appendix A (Staff Report)**Professional Learning****Network for Learning (N4L)** * Modules to support VS teachers in Developmental Disability (DD) and Diagnostic Kindergarten (DK) programs that includes: Family/ Caregiver/Guardian Engagement, Alternative Curriculum, High-Yield Strategies, Structuring the Day, Student Voice & Agency Post21 and Collaborative Communities

**Holland Bloorview - Parent Engagement Session*** PL for staff and families of students with special needs to address possible stresses of the upcoming break (e.g., routines for the break, dealing with anxiety, mental health and well-being concerns etc...)
* Week of December 14th, 2020
 |
| 5 | Trustees’ Report(s /Introductions* PSCC update
 | Nil Report |
| .6 | Working Groups - * Budget/Communication/Sp. Ed. Plan/Action Plans
 |  **Special Education Plan Working Group presented a plan to look at different sections of the plan prior to submission for next year.** **The Budget working group has also been meeting to provide input to the budget process.** |
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| 7. | SEAC Member Reports  | **Nil Report**  |
| 8 | Other business | David Lepofsky – representing parents of blind/low vision students – noted that TDSB has a significant shortage of support.Needs to be a surge in provision of supports for visually impaired students – board has not adequately planned – and in fact is a reduction in the number of hours that students are receiving. |
| 9. | AdjournmentNext Meeting: January 11 @ 7 pm - will be virtual – Election for Chair/Vice Chair will be held |  |

Appendix A

