



Statutory Committee

Name of Committee: Special Education Community Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: 9, September, 2019

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee convened on September 9, 2019 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the Board Room at 5050 Yonge Street with Chair Richard Carter presiding.

Attendance:

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Down Syndrome Association of Toronto | Richard Carter (Chair) |
| Association for Bright Children (ABC) | Melissa Rosen |
| Autism Society of Ontario – Toronto | Lisa Kness |
| Community Living Toronto | Tracy O’Regan |
| Integrated Action for Inclusion (IAI) | Tania Principe |
| Learning Disability Association (Toronto) | Regrets |
| VIEWES for the Visually Impaired | David Lepofsky |
| VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children | Paul Cross |
| Epilepsy Toronto | Steven Lynette |
| Easter Seals Ontario | Ade Adenowo-Akpan |
| Community Representative LC1 | Nora Green |
| Community Representative LC1 | Aline Chan |
| Community Representative LC2 | Jean-Paul Ngana |
| Community Representative LC2 | Jordan Glass |
| Community Representative LC3 | Olga Ingrahm |
| Community Representative LC3 | Kirsten Doyle (phone) |
| Community Representative LC4 | |
| Community Representative LC4 | Diane Montgomery |
| TDSB Trustees | Michelle Aarts |

Also present were:

Kathy Witherow, Associate Director, Leadership, Learning and School Improvement
 Angela Nardi-Addesa, System Superintendent, Special Education
 Helen Fisher, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education
 Janine Small, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC1

Lianne Dixon, TDSB SEAC Liaison

The following participated by electronic means: Kirsten Doyle,

Regrets: Trustee Brown, Trustee Lulka, Patrick Smith (Learning Disability Association)

Part A: Recommendations

New Alternate Member for Autism Ontario

Whereas there is a vacancy for the alternate representative for Autism Ontario on the Toronto District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), and

Whereas SEAC has received nominations from the executive officer of Autism Ontario for Julie Diamond to become the Alternate Representative, and

Whereas the named applicant meets the Ministry of Education and board criteria for eligibility, therefore,

Therefore, be it resolved that the board appoint Julie Diamond as the Alternate Representative for Autism Ontario for the remainder of the 2018 to 2022 term.

Part B: For Information Only

- Working groups were established for 2019/20 (Special Education Plan, Action Plan, Communication and Budget)
- Changes to Senior team that affect SEAC were explained and new staff were introduced to SEAC (Angela Nardi-Addesa, System Superintendent, Special Education and Helen Fisher, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education)
- Changes to the 2019 Special Education Plan were shared with SEAC
- Changes to SEA claim process and training were outlined
- SEAC members raised the question of whether SEAC motions need to go to PSSC prior to going to the Board and raised a concern about delays in feedback around motions. Associate Director, Kathy Witherow, will share PSSC and board decisions that relate to SEAC motions with SEAC
- On the Toronto District School Board SEAC, there are 12 positions for Local association memberships. Each local association has a representative and an alternate. Autism Ontario has a vacancy for alternate member. SEAC unanimously passed a motion to approve Julie Diamond as the Alternate Member for Autism Ontario

Part C: Ongoing Matters

SEAC requested presentations from the Transportation Department and Budget at the October meeting.

Report Submitted by: Lianne Dixon