SEPRC Motion – Passed March 21, 2022

SEPRC Motion: Motion to affirm and require continuation of unrestricted access to SEPRC for all families

WHEREAS some families of students with special education needs, before moving their child into TDSB, seek to meet with appropriate staff, to identify these needs, make necessary accommodations and supports, and / or agree on an appropriate classroom placement for that child;

AND WHEREAS this is sought and required so that the child may be placed in an appropriate classroom with necessary supports from the first day of school in their new school board;

AND WHEREAS parents who request a SEPRC meeting any time in the year before the start of

the next school year, for their child of any grade level who is not in the TDSB, typically already have assessments, known diagnoses, and / or concerns about their child’s special education needs, and might also benefit from additional assessments, or advice from TDSB staff;

AND WHEREAS parents who approach the TDSB to obtain a SEPRC meeting before their child has started in the new school board in any grade are concerned about their child receiving adequate supports and an appropriate placement starting from their first day of school;

AND WHEREAS the SEPRC (Special Education Placement Review Committee) process (herein referred to as the “SEPRC Process”) is designed for parents to have an opportunity to meet with TDSB staff to discuss their child’s special education needs and enable necessary supports to start on their first day of school;

AND WHEREAS the SEPRC Process has been used by TDSB for well over a decade to ensure that the child’s special education needs are understood, identified and supported, and that the child may be placed in an appropriate classroom with appropriate supports from the first day of school;

AND WHEREAS the process of a SEPRC meeting is the most efficient and humane approach to supporting children’s needs, and also prevents immeasurable stress, for the child, the family, their classmates, their teacher, and the entire system;

AND WHEREAS this informative, simple, effective, and efficient planning step is very important to the child’s academic, social, and emotional development, and mental health;

AND WHEREAS TDSB staff have made undisclosed significant changes to drastically restrict the SEPRC Process;

AND WHEREAS these changes have been attempted without prior disclosure to and consultation with SEAC and its representatives, and consideration of their input, advice, and recommendations;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT:

All of the preamble (“WHEREAS”) statements above are included as part of this “IT IS RESOLVED” and recommendation section of this motion;

AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

SEAC supports and endorses TDSB’s previous successful SEPRC process, policy, and procedures (collectively herein called the “SEPRC Process”) and strongly advises and recommends that the SEPRC Process continue as it previously has, to fulfill the same important need that it has for well over a decade, and so that all parents who wish to initiate and use the SEPRC Process continue to have full, unfettered access to and use of the SEPRC Process, without any predetermined bias or limitations or any restrictions on any parents’ access to the SEPRC Process.