

## REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 25, 2020  
6:58 p.m. - 8:55 p.m.

### MEMBERS

C. Thammavongsa, Association for Bright Children  
B. Mai, Association for Bright Children  
B. Furac, Community Living London  
A. Morse, Easter Seals Ontario  
B. Harvey, Epilepsy Support Centre (+7:15)  
P. Cook, Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario  
D. Shore-Reid, Learning Disabilities Association London  
L. Turner-Otte, Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer  
S. Grabstas, Vanier Children's Services  
M. Barbeau, Voice for Hearing Impaired Children  
M. Cvetkovich, Children's Aid Society of London and Middlesex  
J. Wright, Community Services Coordination Network (CSCN)(+8:00)  
T. Grant, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Network  
S. Young, London Autism Developmental Disabilities  
J. Gritzan, Thames Valley Children's Centre  
S. Thomson, Thames Valley Council Home and School Associations  
J. Bennett, Trustee  
L. Pizzolato, Trustee  
B. Yeoman, Trustee

### ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

A. Canham, Superintendent of Special Education  
A. Leatham, Learning Supervisor  
R. Ferrara, Learning Supervisor  
H. Mahabir, Elementary Principal  
T. Birtch, Secondary Principal  
M. Chevalier, Elementary Principal  
M. Phillips, Secondary Principal  
S. Smith, Corporate Services  
J. Capaldi, Communication Specialist  
B. Williams, Corporate Services  
S. McNaughton, Assistant to Superintendent  
A. Ajibowu, IT Projects and Training

**Regrets:** S. Lawrence Farrants

#### 1. **Call to Order**

Chair Cook called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. through a virtual Teams meeting.

#### 2. **Welcome and Introduction of Guests**

Chair Cook welcomed everyone and reviewed the virtual meeting norms.

#### 3. **Confirmation of Agenda**

The agenda was approved on motion.

#### 4. **Conflicts of Interest**

None declared.

#### 5. **Report of the Previous Meeting**

The report of the 2020 May 4 Special Education Advisory Committee meeting was provided for information.

#### 6. **Business Arising from the Minutes item #6**

Administration provided information, as a follow up to the previous meeting, regarding the number of students identified with an exceptionality in Elementary and the number of students by exceptionality including students with multiple exceptionalities.

## **7. IPRCs 2020 - Update**

A. Canham provided an update on IPRCs reporting parents/guardians have been provided an opportunity to participate in a virtual Identification Placement Review Committee (IPRC) meeting. It was noted all other IPRCs will be held in the fall.

Waivers were sent to parents/guardians and documentation will be placed in each student's OSR.

R. Ferrara outlined the phases of the virtual IPRC process. The steps of each phase were detailed.

Questions of clarification regarding IPRC waivers, the communication sent to parents regarding waiving IPRCs and the consequences to waiving IPRCs were addressed.

In response to a question, A. Leatham reported all IPRCs for System Class students were held.

## **8. Learn at Home/Staff Development Update**

A. Canham provided an update on Learning at Home noting Week at a Glance continues to be published and well received weekly.

Survey results around communication were provided by A. Canham.

A. Canham advised the Speech, Language and Pathology support staff launched web and Instagram support pages to provide tips, information and ideas for families to help their child's communication skills at home.

R. Ferrara advised that the Assistive Technology team organized professional development for educators through weekly online sessions. Additionally an assistive technology page was created to support parents/students with distance learning.

A. Leatham advised on upcoming training available for staff including: BMS (recertification) online, EA Professional Learning Modules, Geneva Centre for Autism, TRACKS Training and virtual LST Meetings.

Questions of clarification regarding Assistive Technology TOSA support for Learn at Home, support available for families without internet access and synchronous learning were addressed.

## **9. Updates from the Ministry of Education**

A. Canham provided an update on report cards advising the Ministry of Education has indicated that signatures are required. Administration is seeking clarification regarding IEPs. Various options to implement the signature process are being reviewed. A. Canham reported grades/marks for June report cards will be determined based on student achievement from 2020 February to 2020 June with the understanding marks will not be less than what was achieved by March 13.

A. Canham provided an update on Individual Education Plans (IEPs) noting the requirement for a Board signature may impact the 2020 June 24 target date for posting to the Parent Portal.

Questions of clarification regarding transition IEPs, parent engagement for IEPs, final IEPs after parent consultation and the flexibility teachers will have for determining final grades/marks were addressed.

**10. Special Education Staffing and Budget 2020-2021**

A. Canham advised the Grants for Student Needs (GSNs) and Priorities and Partnership Fund (PPF) have not been released by the Ministry.

It was determined an additional SEAC meeting will be held 2020 June 22 or 29.

**11. Supports for Students with a Giftedness Exceptionality 2020-2021**

**a. SEAC Feedback**

A. Canham presented for review and input the summary of feedback from the “Gifted Service Model Literature Review and Feedback Form” as provided by Research and Assessment.

**b. Sub-committee Update**

The subcommittee members were identified and a recap of the purpose of the first meeting was provided.

The Research and Assessment team is in the process of creating a survey to solicit input from the community. The survey will be sent to the parents/guardians of students that have been formally identified through the Identification, Placement, and Review Committee (IPRC) process. The target date to release the survey is 2020 June 11. Next steps were outlined.

**c. Next Steps**

A. Canham outlined the next steps including the purpose of the survey, the target audience, target dates and it was noted the next subcommittee is 2020 May 29.

Questions of clarification regarding the process for creating the survey, access to the survey, and a timeline for the subcommittee were addressed.

**12. Draft Policy and Procedure Update**

**a. Student Use of Guide Dogs and Service Animals Policy and Procedure**

A. Canham provided an update on the draft Student Use of Guide Dogs and Service Animals Policy and Procedure. Next steps were outlined.

**b. Exclusion of a Student Policy and Procedure**

A. Canham provided an update on the draft Exclusion of a Student Policy and Procedure. Next steps were outlined. A. Canham reminded the committee this policy and procedure may not be used as a form of discipline. It was noted the appeal process was reduced from 30 days to 15 days.

**13. SEAC/Departmental Priorities (Standing Item)**

None.

**14. Students on Modified Day (Standing Item)**

None.

**15. Special Education Plan (Standing Item)**

**a. Standards 1, 3, 6, 8, 15, 16**

A. Canham presented revisions to Standards 1, 3, 6, 8, 15 and 16 of the Special Education Plan. A copy of the revisions were provided prior to the meeting.

Discussion occurred regarding the revisions. A. Canham requested any questions be emailed to him following the meeting.

It was noted Standards 2, 4, 5, 7 and 9 will be presented at the next SEAC meeting.

In response to a question, A. Canham offered to follow up with A. Marlowe regarding the Accessibility Plan for TVDSB.

**b. Standards 10, 11, 13, 14, 17, 18**

A. Canham presented revisions to Standards 10,11, 13, 14, 17 and 18 of the Special Education Plan. A copy of the revisions were provided prior to the meeting.

A. Canham requested any questions be emailed to him following the meeting.

The plan will be reviewed for endorsement at the 2020 June 15 SEAC meeting.

It was noted the 2020-2021 SEAC meeting dates were provided in the plan for review.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding partial/virtual classrooms for the 2020-2021 school year and partnerships with other ministries and agencies.

**16. Correspondence (Standing Item)**

None.

**17. Other Business**

None.

**18. Forum: Association Updates (Round Table)**

None.

**19. 2020 Meeting Dates**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 15, 2020 6:30 p.m.

**20. Future Agenda Items**

- Sub-committee report
- Special Education Staffing and Budget 2020-2021
- September Student Re-entry to school

**21. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. by motion.