

## REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 2, 2021  
12:15 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.

### MEMBERS

#### Representatives

C. Thammavongsa, Association for Bright Children  
B. Furac, Community Living London  
A. Morse, Easter Seals Ontario(+1:13)  
B. Harvey, Epilepsy Support Centre  
P. Cook, Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario  
M. Cvetkovich, Children's Aid Society of London and Middlesex  
J. Wright, Community Services Coordination Network (CSCN)  
T. Grant, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Network  
S. Young, London Autism Developmental Disabilities(+12:17)  
J. Gritzan, Thames Valley Children's Centre  
L. Pizzolato, Trustee  
B. Yeoman, Trustee

#### Alternates

K. Wilson, Autism Ontario London  
D. Shore-Reid, Learning Disabilities Association London  
N. Davison, VOICE for the Hearing Impaired  
C. Krygsman, Community Services Coordination Network (CSCN)(+12:17)

**Regrets:** J. Bennett, L. Dunlop-Dibbs, S. Thomson

### ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

A. Canham, Superintendent of Special Education  
A. Leatham, System Principal  
R. Ferrara, System Principal  
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(+1:20)(-1:30)

#### 1. Call to Order

Chair B. Yeoman called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. in the London Room at the Education Centre.

#### 2. Welcome

A. Canham welcomed everyone and reviewed the virtual meeting norms.

#### 4. Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

#### 5. Report of the Previous Meeting

The report of the 2019 January 8 Special Education Advisory Committee meeting was provided for information.

On request members will be identified as representatives/alternates in the attendance of the minutes going forwards.

#### 6. Business Arising from the Minutes

A. Canham provided an update regarding the clear masks provided by the Ministry of Education. The TVDSB is awaiting a response from the Ministry regarding the request for additional clear masks in smaller sizes.

**7. Sub-Committee Reports**

**a. Giftedness**

A. Canham advised on the activities of the Giftedness Sub-committee noting the sub-committee has met multiple times since the sub-committee was formed last spring. Sub-committee Chair P. Cook noted a report will be presented at the 2021 March 8 SEAC meeting.

**b. SEAC Priorities**

Sub-committee Chair A. Morse presented the SEAC Priorities Sub-committee Report and detailed each priority. The rationale for the selection of priorities was provided.

Sub-committee members include A. Morse, N. Davison, J. Wright, D. Shore-Reid and staff.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding input from parents/guardians, early identification, identifying gaps, communicating with families, training on the new model and parent volunteers.

Discussion occurred regarding the five priority items.

Recommendations were captured by A. Morse.

A. Canham requested members email any additional recommended action items to himself and A. Morse.

**8. Professional Assessment Strategy Update**

A. Canham provided an update of the waitlist data for professional assessments.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding staffing, referrals/screening, barriers for removing wait times and summer assessments. Discussion considered options for supporting continued improvements in lowering waitlist times.

**9. SEAC Handbook Update**

Corporate Services Supervisor B. Williams joined the meeting.

B. Williams presented the proposed addition to the SEAC Handbook regarding Minority Reports.

It was noted the information will be passed along to the sub-committee formed to review and update the SEAC Handbook. Sub-committee members are C. Thammavongsa, L. Pizzolato, T. Grant and staff.

**10. After School Skills Development Program (ASSDP) Update**

A. Leatham provided an update regarding the After School Skills Development Program (ASSDP) noting the addition of two groups: the One Children's Friendship Training (CFT) group and the One Program for the Education and Enrichment or Relation Skills (PEERS) group. Plans for the delivery of the groups was described.

Questions of clarification were addressed regarding messaging for parents, program criteria, future programming and monitoring the effectiveness of the program.

**11. Future Agenda Items**

B. Yeoman provided members an opportunity to recommend agenda items for future meetings.

Agenda item criteria was outlined. Recommended items were captured by A. Canham.

Discussion occurred regarding the recommended items; ASSDP Measures of Effectiveness, CCAT Testing, TOSA Referrals and an update on the Accessibility Plan. A. Canham conducted a poll to ensure each future item was supported by the majority of members.

Clarification was provided regarding the item "closed captioning" noting the full report will be presented as part of the Accessibility Plan update. A brief report will be provided at the next SEAC meeting.

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

A. Canham advised on the 2021 Special Education Plan sub-committee requesting that members interested in joining the sub-committee email B. Yeoman and A. Canham.

**13. Students on a Modified Day (Standing Item)**

The next update will be provided at the 2021 March 8 meeting.

**14. Correspondence (Standing Item)**

None.

**16. 2021 Meeting Dates**

The 2021 meeting dates were provided in the agenda package. The next meeting is scheduled for 2021 March 8, 6:30 p.m.

**17. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:41 p.m. by motion.

Recommendations: None.

**B. Yeoman**  
Chairperson