



**BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board**

Minutes

Catholic Education Centre
322 Fairview Drive
Brantford, ON N3R 2X6

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, January 16, 2024 – 1:00pm
Microsoft Teams

- Members:** Dennis Blake (Trustee), Mary Bradford (Principal, Secondary), Michelle Drake (Crossing All Bridges), Christina Ferrell (Woodview Children’s Centre), Susan Lentz (Lansdowne Children’s Centre), Kerri Lomax (Principal, Elementary), Shannon Mason (Principal Lead: Special Education Staffing), Linda McFayden (Contact Brant), Patti Mitchell (Parent, County of Brant), Marilyn Noi (Autism Ontario), Jennifer Rudyk (Principal, Elementary), Phil Wilson (Superintendent of Education), Nil Woodcroft (Haldimand Norfolk REACH)
- Regrets:** Brandi Bertling (Child and Family Services of Grand Erie), Tara Buchanan (Community Living Brant), Laura Bergeron (ad hoc), Mischa Dinsmore (Lansdowne Children’s Centre), Shannon Korber (Child and Family Services of Grand Erie), Janelle Sandy (Indigenous Child and Youth Team at Child and Family Services of Grand Erie)
- Resources:** Sandra DeDominicis (Student Achievement Lead: Special Education)

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Christina Ferrell welcomed the committee.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Superintendent Wilson read the board’s land acknowledgement.

3. Opening Prayer

Sandra De Dominicis shared an opening prayer.

4. Introductions and Welcome

Superintendent Wilson welcomed all committee members.

5. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Nil Woodcroft

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the agenda of the January 16, 2024, meeting.

Carried

6. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by: Linda McFayden

Seconded by: Patti Mitchell

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the December 19, 2023, meeting.

Carried

7. Correspondence - Nil

8. Community Agency Updates

Michelle Drake

Crossing All Bridges is open during the March Break, March 11-15, 2024, and is accepting individuals aged 15-16 years old. The Spring Fling fundraising formal will be held in April 2024.

Patti Mitchell

The Special Olympics Polar Plunge fundraiser will take place March. There is many fundraising efforts taking place as six students are headed to the Olympics with athletes going to nationals.

Linda McFayden

Contact Brant is moving to 255 Colborne Street, Brantford on February 1, 2024.

Nil Woodcroft

Haldimand Norfolk REACH are starting to send entry to school invitations to families from the Ministry for Autism Services.

Susan Lentz

Lansdowne Children's Centre has been awarded explementary standing and has been approved for stage one for building a new Lansdowne Children's Centre.

Kerri Lomax

Kickstart to Kindergarten has begun with eight schools participating with the inclusion of community partners.

9. Student Achievement Lead

Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board (BHNCDSD) has added Bartimaeus support to Madonna Della Libera school.

The Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT) pool opened this week for new interested applicants.

Assumption College held a Pathways Night for students and families on January 11, 2024.

Special Education Consultants and the Student Achievement Lead joined a virtual Ontario Council of Administrators of Special Education session last Friday on the Science of Math.

BHNCDSD completed the final Empower Reading training session with Sick Kids Hospital.

10. Superintendent of Education

An in-person Educational Assistant Professional Development Day will be held on January 22, 2024, with presentations from Michael Jacques and Nelson Mota.

Empower Reading will be active in every school of BHNCDSD in 2024-2025.

BHNCDSD has received the amount for their Special Equipment Amount funding. It has two components per pupil and a claims-based amount.

BHNCDSD is re-evaluating math modified Individual Education Plans and completed an audit developing next steps and individual school action plans to provide the best opportunities for the students of BHNCDSD.

11. Closing Remarks/Adjournment

Superintendent Wilson thanked everyone.

The meeting adjourned at 1:26 pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.
