



SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC)

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 – 1:00pm

Catholic Education Centre and Microsoft Teams

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

Phil Wilson welcomed the committee.

2. Opening Prayer

Sandra De Dominicis shared an opening prayer with the committee.

3. Land Acknowledgement

Superintendent Wilson read the board’s land acknowledgement.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Patti Mitchell

Seconded by: Mischa Dinsmore

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the agenda of the June 18, 2024, meeting.

Carried

5. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by: Mischa Dinsmore

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the May 21, 2024, meeting.

Carried

6. Correspondence – Nil

7. Community Agency Updates

Mary Bradford

The Tri-High Games, a Special Education sports event, was held at St. John’s College on Friday, June 13, 2024.

Kerri Lomax

BHNCDSB transition meetings have been taking place in the elementary schools with the students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) to prepare for the 2024-2025 school year.

Tara Buchanan

Community Living Brant has two new sites for Project Search. One is in Haldimand and the other in Norfolk. The funding for project search has changed and the new guidelines only allow participants 18 years of age and over. Presentations are available on "Project Search" if additional information is requested.

Christina Ferrell

Woodview Children's Centre will have a new member joining SEAC for the 2024-2025 school year. Christina Ferrell will be replaced by Lauren Moulton.

Nil Woodcroft

Haldimand Norfolk Reach will be holding their Annual General Meeting (AGM), June 25, 2024. The theme is better together. BHNCDSB will be recognized. Additionally, Haldimand Norfolk Reach is on a pilot project for the extensive needs project with McMaster University.

Shannon Korber

Child and Family Services of Grand Erie will be able to provide the transportation grant given to school boards again for the 2024- 2025 school year.

Linda McFayden

Contact Brant, through Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, have applied for diagnostic funding.

Mischa Dinsmore

The Lansdowne Children's Centre Annual General Meeting will take place on June 19, 2024. The annual charity motorcycle ride will take place on July 6, 2024. There is still time to sponsor a rider for this event.

8. Gianni Silvestri

A presentation was provided from Gianni Silvestri, providing SEAC members with a photo compilation of the Have a Go Special Education elementary games.

9. Student Achievement Lead and Superintendent of Education

On May 29, 2024, Rachel Moreau, the BHNCDSB Orientation and Mobility instructor initiated a visit to W. Ross McDonald School and was introduced to special programming and resources.

The BHNCDSB Special Education Resource Consultant's attended a 2-day conference.

The BHNCDSB Educational Assistant allocation has been completed for the 2024-2025 school year.

The BHNCDSB 2023-2024 Special Education report is going to the Board on June 21, 2024. This report highlights the work of the BHNCDSB Special Education department and the 17 specialists. The work completed has been done to ensure the children get the most support available and to allow children to meet their potential.

The math audits for BHNCDSB have been completed in all schools to ensure correct programming in math for the students.

The Story Champs program implemented by BHNCDSB is having an impact on the pedagogy of teachers.

The BHNCDSB provided 250 Lexia licenses during the 2023-2024 school year. Of the students using these licenses, 80-90% are meeting the reading level targets.

The Empower Reading Program will be used in every school after Thanksgiving 2024.

The BHNCDSB Special Education plan will be completed by July 31, 2024, for the 2024-2025 school year.

10. Closing Remarks/Adjournment

Superintendent Wilson thanked everyone.

The meeting adjourned at 2:23pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 17, 2024.
Location to be determined.
