



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board

Minutes

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

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE Tuesday, January 21, 2025 – 1:00pm Catholic Education Centre and Microsoft Teams

- Members:** Brandi Bertling (Child and Family Services of Grand Erie), Dennis Blake (Trustee), Mischa Dinsmore (Lansdowne Children's Centre), Michelle Drake (Crossing All Bridges), Lauren Freeborn (Contact Brant), Lauren Moulton (Woodview Mental Health and Autism Services), Nil Woodcroft (Haldimand Norfolk REACH)
- Regrets:** Tara Buchanan (Community Living Brant), Shannon Korber (Child and Family Services of Grand Erie), Kerri Lomax (Principal, Elementary), Patti Mitchell (Parent, County of Brant), 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), Jennifer Rudyk (Principal, Elementary), Phil Wilson (Superintendent of Education)
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1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Mischa Dinsmore welcomed the committee.

2. Opening Prayer

Sandra De Dominicis shared an opening prayer.

3. Land Acknowledgement

Superintendent Wilson read the board's land acknowledgement.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Nil Woodcroft

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the agenda of the January 21, 2025, meeting.

Carried

5. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Lauren Moulton

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the December 17, 2024, meeting.

Carried

6. Correspondence

A letter was received from the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE), a division of the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association, asking for SEAC committees to provide targeted feedback on issues related to special education programs and services at BHNCD SB. The responses will be collected by MACSE and shared for discussion at the next MACSE meeting. The SEAC team provided feedback, and the information has been sent to SEAC members for further review and will be submitted to MASCE on February 3, 2025.

An email was received from the vice-chair of SEAC for the Ottawa Catholic District School Board. It is being asked that all SEAC chairs add their signature in support of the letter being sent to Minister Jill Dunlop, Ministry of Education. The letter was discussed and the SEAC of BHNCDSD does not feel that the experiences of the BHNCDSD are reflected in the letter. BHNCDSD SEAC will provide a response to the sender providing the experience of BHNCDSD but will not sign the letter.

7. Community Agency Updates

Nil Woodcroft

Haldimand Norfolk REACH is preparing for the Entry to School Program and All About Me reports. HN REACH is currently recruiting for family respite positions.

Lauren Freeborn

Contact Brant received ENS (Extensive Needs Services) funding for the next fiscal year.

Michelle Drake

Crossing All Bridges is hosting a Ladies Night, every Wednesday evening until mid-February. All events are listed on the Crossing All Bridges event calendar on the website.

Lauren Moulton

Woodview Mental Health and Autism Services is celebrating their 60th anniversary. Celebratory planning is taking place. A cooking group is being held for children ages 7 – 11 years old from April - June.

Jennifer Rudyk

Bell Let's Talk Day is January 22, 2025.

Ten schools with BHNCDSD will be doing electronic delivery of report cards.

Eight to ten schools have been added to the Kickstart to Kindergarten roster for 2025.

8. Closing Remarks/Adjournment

Mischa Dinsmore thanked everyone. The meeting adjourned at 2:21pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025.
