



# **BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board**

## **Minutes**

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

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### **SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, March 18, 2025 – 1:00pm**

**Microsoft Teams**

- Members:** Brandi Bertling (Child and Family Services of Grand Erie), Dennis Blake (Trustee), Michelle Drake (Crossing All Bridges), Lauren Freeborn (Contact Brant), Patti Mitchell (Parent, County of Brant), Lauren Moulton (Woodview Mental Health and Autism Services), Nil Woodcroft (Haldimand Norfolk REACH)
- Regrets:** Mischa Dinsmore (Lansdowne Children's Centre), Simon Jennions (Community Living Brant), Shannon Korber (Child and Family Services of Grand Erie), Kerri Lomax (Principal, Elementary), Shannon Mason (Principal, Elementary), Marilyn Noi (Autism Ontario), Jennifer Rudyk (Principal, Elementary), Janelle Sandy (Indigenous Child and Youth Team at Child and Family Services of Grand Erie)
- Resources:** Sandra DeDominicis (Student Achievement Lead, Special Education), Phil Wilson (Superintendent of Education)

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#### **1. Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Phil Wilson 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. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Lauren Freeborn

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the agenda of the March 18, 2025, meeting.

**Carried**

#### **5. Approval of the Minutes**

Moved by: Lauren Moulton

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the February 18, 2025, meeting.

**Carried**

#### **6. Correspondence**

Nil

#### **7. Community Agency Updates**

##### **Nil Woodcroft**

Haldimand Norfolk REACH Autism and Behaviour Services is busy supporting the Kickstart to Kindergarten events in the schools.

**Patti Mitchell**

The planning for the Special Olympics is going strong. There is a first responders vs. athlete's basketball game being held at St. John's College, March 27, 2025, from 6:00pm – 8:00pm. The cost is \$5.

**Lauren Freeborn**

Contact Brant has communicated that for a re-referral to Urgent Response Services (URS), families must wait 14 days from the final service date before they can re-refer to the program. There must be a new behaviour or behaviour that has increased to meet the threshold. If the child is opened again in URS, they will receive up to 6 weeks of caregiver-mediated support; respite will not be provided.

A new SEAC representative from Contact Brant will join the committee in May.

**Lauren Moulton**

Woodview Children's Centre, Brantford Autism Services, will be holding a Pan-tastic Chefs group for children ages 7 – 11. The program runs from April 7 – June 30, 2025.

Mental Health week planning continues.

**Brandi Bertling**

Child and Family Services of Grand Erie is looking at transition planning for students moving from Grade 8 to high school.

**8. Student Achievement Lead and Superintendent of Education**

The BHNCDSEB Special Education department have completed the System Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) meetings for the secondary special classes for Grade 8's entering Grade 9.

Term 2 Elementary Individual Education Plans (IEPs) have been completed and provided to families. Secondary IEPs go home on Friday, March 21, 2025.

Haldimand Norfolk Reach has invited BHNCDSEB to an in-person sharing of future special needs students.

Technology is being looked at for students with hearing impairments and students who have English as a Second Language.

A virtual Community of Practice was held including presentations from TD Snap and Boardmaker.

BHNCDSEB is hiring a new Speech and Language Pathologist.

**9. Closing Remarks/Adjournment**

Phil Wilson thanked everyone. The meeting adjourned at 1:32pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

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