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**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Tuesday, February 15, 2022 – 1pm  
Teams Meeting**

**Members:** Kevin Greco (*Superintendent of Education*), Bill Chopp (*Trustee*), Laura Bergeron (*ad hoc*), Tara Buchanan, Lauren Freeborn, Annemarie Krauss, Christina Ferrell, Shannon Korber, Brandi Bertling, Marissa Lechowicz

**Regrets:** Nil Woodcroft, Kerri Lomax, Christina Ferrell

**Resources:** Carmen McDermid (*Student Achievement Lead: Special Education*), Shannon Mason (*Principal Lead: Special Education Staffing*), Kerri Lomax (*VP, Secondary*), Patti Mitchell (*Parent, County of Brant*)

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**1. Land Acknowledgement**

Lauren Freeborn led with a land acknowledgement.

**2. Opening Prayer**

Carmen McDermid shared an opening prayer.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Approved: Patti Mitchell

Seconded: Tara Buchanan

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the agenda of the February 15, 2022, meeting.

**4. Approval of the Minutes**

Approved: Annemarie Krauss

Seconded: Patti Mitchell

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the January 18, 2022, meeting.

**5. Correspondence**

Superintendent Greco shared a letter from the Durham District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee. The letter is supporting other Board's letters sent to Minister Lecce regarding Special Incident Portion Funding and noting shortfalls in Special Education funding. Trustee Chopp is in favour of sending this letter forward under our Board's name. No committee members opposed, letter to be drafted and reviewed at next meeting.

**6. Presentation**

**6.1 Phonemic Awareness & Bridge the Gap Awareness**

The Board's Speech and Language Pathologists Stephanie Bergman and Meagan Courneyea shared a presentation highlighting the importance of Phonemic Awareness and Bridge the Gap Awareness.

**6.2 Transportation & Stability Support Funds**

An overview of the Transportation and Stability Support Funds was given by Shannon Korber. This program was created by the Ministry of Education to assist families in service to help with transitions

such as school transfers. The program is used in collaboration with Children's Aid Society, schools, and transportation services. Other stability supports may include technology, assessments, or helping a child attend an event.

## **7. Update on Professional Learning/New Programming**

Superintendent Greco shared an update on the Heggerty Program, Bridge the Gap Program, Self-Regulation, De-Streaming, and Coding initiatives. The Board is continuing to expand E-Learning offerings, currently 6 (six) courses are being offered.

## **8. PAAC Special Education Funding Discussion**

Committee members were invited to bring forward any thoughts, questions, or comments surrounding the PAAC Special Education Funding. No updates but the Committee will continue to monitor this when the financial report is released in the Spring.

## **9. Community Agency Updates**

### **Anmarie Krauss – Lansdowne**

No new updates.

### **Patti Mitchell – Parent, County of Brant**

No new updates.

### **Shannon Korber – CAS Haldimand Norfolk**

The agency is currently focusing on Stability Supports, which helps with children transitioning from one school to another.

### **Shannon Mason – Principal Lead**

The Board's Heggerty resources have been very helpful within schools, and staff are happy to hear we will continue with this program. Our Special Education Resource Teachers and other school staff are busy working on term two Individual Education Plans and getting them sent out.

### **Lauren Freeborn – Contact Brant**

A free Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder training webinar is scheduled for February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm. Flyer shared with the Board.

## **10. Reports**

### **10.1 Superintendent of Education**

Superintendent Greco confirmed schools are now in a semester schedule. Screening, PPE, and all health and safety measures are still in place. Happy to announce high school sports have started again. The Provision of Health Support Services in School Settings (PPM 81) is under review with the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health. The update of PPM 81 will be monitored in the case it affects internal policies/processes.

### **10.2 Student Achievement Leader**

Since the committee last met there has been a Secondary Professional Development Day. The Identification, Placement and Review Committee intakes are currently taking place in Secondary schools.

## **11. Closing Remarks/Adjournment**

No further comments. Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.