

## Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

January 10, 2022

### Leadership Report

#### Leadership, Learning and School Improvement

Andrew Gold, Associate Director Leadership, Learning and School Improvement  
Angela Nardi-Addesa, System Superintendent of Special Education & Inclusion

#### Welcome and Congratulations

We extend a warm welcome to Alex Tilley who is the new Administrative Liaison for Special Education and Inclusion. Congratulations to Oyin Orekoya who is now the new Executive Assistant to Andrew Gold.

#### Election

On January 10th, 2022 SEAC Meeting committee members will elect one member as Chair and one as Vice-Chair. Election is by majority vote for a one year term (with a maximum of 3 consecutive years in either role). Candidates can be nominated by members and are permitted to nominate themselves. Speeches may be given to a maximum of 5 minutes in the order of the nominations.

Voting is conducted by Secret Ballot and results are published in the minutes. In the event of a tie - a second vote is conducted, followed by the drawing of lots to break a repeated tie.

#### COVID-19 Update

On January 3rd, 2022, as part of Ontario's new measures to stop the spread of COVID-19, the Ministry of Education announced elementary and secondary school students at publicly funded school boards would move to remote learning from January 5 until at least January 17, 2022.

More than 240,000+ students and staff have shifted to remote learning until at least January 17. We are committed to fostering meaningful learning and engagement every day for all students by providing authentic real-world challenges into learning; well-being activities; a variety of groupings to allow students' voices and ideas to be shared; mini-lessons with direct instruction and time to practice and deepen understanding of key concepts, differentiated instruction and creative thinking and problem-solving; and assessment for/as learning.

As per direction from the Ministry, boards are *“required to provide in-person instruction for students with complex special education needs who cannot be accommodated remotely.”* This includes students in our Education and Community Partnership Programs (ECPP).

TDSB is committed to providing in-person instruction for the limited number of students with complex medical and special education needs who cannot be accommodated remotely. During the week of Jan 3, schools collaborated with staff and families to determine which students could not be accommodated remotely. While most students will be able to be accommodated remotely, in-person



learning for students with complex medical and special education needs became available on Friday January 7th as principals considered appropriate staffing and other critical safety factors.

### **Budget Update**

We welcome Craig Snider and Marisa Chiu to the January 10th, 2022 SEAC Meeting. They will discuss the Special Education Budget Allocation for the 2021-2022 school year and seek input from SEAC members around the 2022-23 strategic budget drivers which will help influence the budget development process.

### **Ministry Funding**

TDSB has received Ministry funding to support students with special education needs. In collaboration with schools, and Learning Network Superintendents, and the Special Education and Inclusion team, staff was allocated to address system needs within our schools. Below is a list of the funding announced to date:

- Covid Funds (PPF Special Education Supports: Learning Recovery) - \$0.55M (1st half);\$0.55M (2nd half)
- CYW COVID Funds (PPF Additional Staffing Support) - \$3.65M (1st half); \$1.5M (2nd half)
- PPF - Supporting Student Mental Health (1st half) - \$0.62M (1st half)
- GSN - Mental Health Supports (Spec Ed) - \$0.4M

### **Elementary Switch Updates**

The Elementary Switch date was closed as planned on January 7, 2022. TDSB has re-opened the Secondary Switch date due to the current pandemic. The Secondary Switch date was from January 5-7, 2022. Once the data has been collated, more information will be shared.

### **Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)**

- **K-12 Education Accessibility Standards**

The Special Education team is working through the TDSB AODA committee which includes Dina Anker and Jenny Clement to explore using the [K-12 Education Accessibility Standards](#) as a key driver in discussions to ensure TDSB reaches the accessibility standards outlined in the document. Several teams within TDSB will also be involved in this work and we will be reaching out to invite SEAC members to join the committee

- **Access to TDSB Documents**

The Special Education team in collaboration with the TDSB AODA team and IT team will be meeting to discuss how to expedite the movement toward ensuring TDSB documentation such as IEPs, Report Cards, and other key documents pertaining to students are AODA compliant.

### **Special Education Plan**

This month we are highlighting [Section C - Inclusion Strategy](#) of the TDSB Special Education Plan. We are always looking for ways to improve. Should you have feedback on Section C, please use



the Special Education Plan feedback form located at the top Section C once you have entered the link.

### Psychological Assessments-December 2021

Provided below is the report of assessments completed in December.

December	LC1	LC2	LC3	LC4	Total
Completed	63	58	42	85	248
Referrals	176	152	67	245	640
<b>Cumulative stats from September 2021</b>					
Completed	223	354	220	226	1023
In Progress	127	181	194	223	725
Waiting	323	236	243	557	1359
Total Referrals	736	873	724	1146	3479

### IPRC December 2021

December IPRCs	
IPRC Completed	113
IPRC Scheduled	167
IPRC Cumulative since August 2021	
IPRC Cumulative since August 2021	1,233

