**SEAC Meeting**

**Date: 4 November, 2019 Location: Board Room, 5050 Yonge St.**

**Time: 7:06**

**Committee Chair:   Richard Carter**

**Committee Vice-Chair:  Steven Lynette**

**Approved Minutes**

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee convened on November 4, 2019 from 7:06 pm to 9:15 pm in the TDSB Board Room (5050 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON).

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**Attendance:**

Association for Bright Children (ABC) Melissa Rosen

Autism Society of Ontario – Toronto Lisa Kness (phone)

Community Living Toronto Tracey O’Regan (phone)

Down Syndrome Association of Toronto Richard Carter

Easter Seals Ontario Vacancy

Epilepsy Toronto Steven Lynette

Integrated Action for Inclusion (IAI) Tania Principe (phone)

Learning Disabilities Association Toronto Patrick Smith

VIEWS for the Visually Impaired David Lepofsky (phone)

VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children Paul Cross

LC1 Nora Green Aline Chan

LC2 Jean-Paul Ngana

LC3 Olga Ingrahm

LC4 Diane Montgomery

TDSB Trustees Trustee Michelle Aarts, Trustee Alexander Brown

**Also present were:**

Kathy Witherow, Associate Director, Leadership, Learning and School Improvement

Angela Nardi-Addesa, System Superintendent, Special Education and Inclusion

Lucy Gianotta , Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education (Acting)

Jennifer Newby, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC4

Susan Moulton, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC 2

Dr. John Malloy, Director

Peter Marks, Conscious Classrooms

Lianne Dixon, TDSB SEAC Liaison

Regrets: Trustee Alexandra Lulka, Jordan Glass, Kirsten Doyle

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| Item | Comments | Recommendations |
| Approval of Agenda (including time allocation) | Approved |  |
| Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interests | None declared |  |
| Approval of SEAC Meeting Minutes for October 7, 2019 | Approved with amendment around including a request for details of allocation of ea/sna and how the allocation corresponds with the Independence Rubric | Amended  Ready to be posted on public website |
| Director’s Update | Director of Education, Dr. John Malloy  presented an update on the MYSP and what changes have taken place in Special Education since his last visit in June 2018.  Dr. Malloy answered questions from SEAC members about transportation, collection of data, professional learning,  See attachments (Appendix A) for documents referenced by the Director in the question and answer component of his presentation. |  |
| Leadership and Learning Department Staff updates, outstanding motion(s) status at PSSC/Board and requests for SEAC input | Project Search  Information Night November 27th 6:30 – 8:00 pm Holland Bloorview Rehab. Hospital  #tdsbUDL  #tdsbUDL supports teachers to understand and effectively use UDL through the creation of multimodal resources shared in both physical and digital spaces.  Special Education Plan  The Special Education Plan has been divided up into sections and sections assigned to monthly meetings to review and share feedback. (Appendix B) |  |
| Conscious Classrooms Update | Guest:  Peter Marks (Centre for Conscious Care) presented to SEAC around creating optimal learning environments for all students.  https://centreforconsciouscare.ca/  Presentation attached. (Appendix C) |  |
| Trustees’ Report(s)   * PSCC, - SEAC Motion status/outcome | Reminder that SEAC members are invited to attend PSSC meetings to support SEAC motions |  |
| Working Groups   * Action Plan (inactive) * Budget (Q’s for C. Snider) * Communications (tbd) * Special Education Plan (monthly review highlights) | Template for making suggestions for edits was shared with Special Education Plan Working Group.  The topics to be reviewed each month will be shared as part of the minutes. |  |
| SEAC Member Reports   * Announcements/Upcoming Events | Canadian Down Syndrome Week Nov. 1 - 7 |  |
| Other business   * CAC/Parents as Partners Conference * SEAC Binder Updates * Correspondence Binder Updates | * Parent Conference – think about possible workshops and send recommendations to Liaison * No correspondence |  |
| Adjournment  Next Meeting: December 2,  2019 @ 7 pm  Follow up/Future Items | * Request for information around the collection of census and school climate survey data with students with special needs (do we make accommodations) to be shared at a future meeting * Suggestion to follow up with Conscious Classrooms as a potential presentation for PAP conference. |  |

Appendix A



Appendix B

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**SEAC Meeting of November 4, 2019**

**Leadership, Learning and School Improvement**

Kathy Witherow, Associate Director

Angela Nardi-Addesa, System Superintendent of Special Education & Inclusion

Lucy Giannotta, Acting Centrally Assigned Principal

**Conscious Classrooms**

* Met with Peter Marks Oct 12, 2019 to discuss possible partnership
* Met with our CUPE partners to discuss possible partnership; they are very supportive
* We are working on a proposal to implement the concept in our congregated sites
* Peter Marks to present Conscious Classrooms at SEAC November 4, 2019

**Project SEARCH**

* 10-month school-to-work transition program for youth with intellectual disabilities in final year of high school
  + May also have autism and/or physical disability
  + Not headed to post-secondary education
  + Not employment-ready at start of program; but will have skills by end of program
* Worldwide 600+ sites
  + ~3,500 graduates in 2018
  + Variety of industries
  + Proven outcomes, transforming lives & business culture
* Project Search Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=8juNYG6nP1U>



**Special Education Plan**

* Sections of the Special Education Plan has been divided up into months to support the SEAC Special Education Plan Committee smaller and more manageable portions of the plan to review and share feedback
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**#tdsbUDL**

* #tdsbUDL was initiated by Michael Baltrup, Assistant Curriculum Leader, School-Wide Initiatives Literacy at Western Technical-Commercial School.
* #tdsbUDL supports teachers to understand and effectively use UDL through the creation of multimodal resources shared in both physical and digital spaces. Educators have been invited to meet to:
  + Create resources that encourage the use of best practices for “classroom teachers ... to teach students with special education needs.”
  + Develop “training on Universal Design in Learning”

Several schools were represented at the introductory meeting; we look forward to learning from this in the future.

**Transportation**

* We are working with Gary Green and Kevin Hodgkinson, to gather data regarding times of routes and costs based on scatter plot mapping for congregated sites.
* Will continue to keep SEAC updated on progress

**LC 1-Janine Small, Special Education & Inclusion CAP**

LC1 held a successful Professional Learning session on Tiered Approach to supporting students with ASD. Participants explored a variety of effective Tier 1 and Tier 2 strategies embedded in Universal Design for Learning. The workshop was attended by over 40 teachers and ECEs. The feedback from participants was clear that it was engaging, interactive and rooted in equity and created a brave space for all to participate in the critical work. Participants eagerly requested a Part 2 session that will be a “Make and Take” opportunity to build on their learning.

**LC 2-Susan Moulton, Special Education & Inclusion CAP**

Special Education and Inclusion Consultants and Coordinator lead several professional learning sessions.. Another session was titled Inclusion Strategies for All Student. It focussed on the principles of UDL, DI and MI when planning for the student’s strengths and needs.  Staff explored Tiered Approaches and Assistive Technology.  Teachers learned about student profiles and how to use the profile for planning.

**LC 3-Cynthia Zwicker-Reston , Special Education & Inclusion CAP**

We are pleased to acknowledge the opening of the New David and Mary Thomson Collegiate scheduled for November.  This state-of-the-art educational facility will be completely accessible and equipped with numerous resources that support an inclusive learning environment and serve various student populations including a number of classes to serve students with Developmental Disabilities.  These students will have specially designed classrooms, gross motor rooms, and direct access to an accessible outdoor area, as well as spaces that support work skills development.  Congratulations!

**LC 4-Jennifer Newby, Special Education & Inclusion CAP**

A number of schools have embraced Wellness as a means to support all students, but these practices are particularly helpful for students with special education needs.

Primary students at Sunnylea Junior School have the opportunity to participate in movement and breathing exercises in the library on their yoga mats.  When asked “When is a good time to do deep breathing?” A kindergarten student identified that it’s a good thing to do when you’re angry.

We can all breath better knowing that students are learning valuable self-regulation skills. Kudos to Sunnylea!

**CTCC- Joy Reiter, Special Education & Inclusion CAP**

CTCC (Care, Treatment, Custody and Corrections) ended the year on a splendid note as we celebrated graduation ceremonies in many of our sites across the city, including Jessies/June Callwood Centre who had a record number of graduates and at Rosalie Hall who had a very proud Ontario Scholar.

The fall brought exciting new beginnings including the opening of a brand new site called JCI at Jarvis Collegiate in partnership with CCMH SickKids, and the expansion of our service delivery for youth who require bedside instruction with another teacher joining the team at SickKids in our Medical program.

We are also in the process of delivering our annual anthology showcasing the writing, art and creative power of our students. The anthology, Reflections, is prepared by a group of our secondary teachers each spring and is a testament to the resilience, diversity and talent of our students across our many programs.

The Administration of CTCC just returned from our first conference with our provincial counterparts that was held in Barrie, with Simcoe Country DSB hosting two days of collaboration, information sharing and site visits. CTCC Toronto will be hosting the next conference, December 12 and 13, in partnership with our Catholic board counterpart.

We look forward to many more successes, exciting opportunities and meaningful growth in the coming months.

Appendix C



Budget in preparation for next months meeting

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Business-Services/Budgets-and-Financial-Statements/2019-20-Budget>