**SEAC Meeting**

**Date: November 2, 2020  Location: Electronic**

**Live Stream**

**Time: 7:00**

**Committee Chair (Interim)   Steven Lynette**

**Committee Vice-Chair:  Diane Montgomery**

**Approved Minutes**

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee convened on November 2, 2020 at 7:00 pm through electronic means, Chair Steven Lynette (elected at the meeting) chaired the meeting.

Association for Bright Children (ABC)                        Melissa Rosen

Autism Society of Ontario – Toronto                          Lisa Kness

Community Living Toronto                                       Regrets

Epilepsy Toronto Steven Lynette

Down Syndrome Association of Toronto                   Richard Carter

Easter Seals Ontario   Aliza Chagpar

Integrated Action for Inclusion (IAI)                            Tania Principe

VIEWS for the Visually Impaired                               David Lepofsky

VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children                         Kara Agostino

Learning Disability Association Nadia Persaud

CADDAC Juanita Beaudry

LC1                                            Aline Chan Nora Green

LC2                                            Jordan Glass         Jean-Paul Ngana

LC3                                           Olga Ingrahm               Kirsten Doyle

LC4                                            Diane Montgomery      Izabella Pruska-Oldenoff,

TDSB Trustees                         Alexander Brown Michelle Aarts

Also present were:

Andrew Gold, Associate Director

Craig Snider, Associate Director

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

Steve Shaw, Executive Officer, Facility Services

Janine Small, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education

Jennifer Newby, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC4

Effie Stathopoulos, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC1

Susan Moulton, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC2

Cindy Zwicker-Reston, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education LC 3

Shameen Sandu

Laura Shepherd

Carolyn Lennox

David Schwarzbein

David Cameron

Vanessa Pfaff

Yvonne Martinez

Laura Mahoney

Lianne Dixon, TDSB SEAC Liaison

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|  | **Item** | **Recommendation/**  **Motion** |
| 1. | Call to Order (quorum) - Land Acknowledgement and Welcome   * Announce Live Streaming | <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Advisory-Committees/Statutory-Advisory-Committees/Special-Education-Advisory-Committee> |
| 2. | Approval of Agenda (including time allocation) | Approved |
| 3. | Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interests  Approval of SEAC Minutes from October 5 | Approved with minor adjustment to facilitator of items 1-3 |
| 4. | Leadership and Learning Department Staff updates, | Craig Snider - budget update  Provided a month by month outline of budget process  Impact of Projected Enrolment   * Based on our updated projected enrolment the impact is forecasted to be approximately $41.8M   Federal and Provincial Funding Available   * There are $58.4M in total additional 2020-21 provincial and federal funding allocated to TDSB, according to government announcements between August 4 and October 5, 2020 * This government funding is targeted to address school boards’ staffing and operating needs as a result of COVID-19 health & safety requirements   Uses of Provincial and Federal Funding   * **Teaching Staff** – $12.74M for 120 additional FTEs * **Caretaking Staff** - $5.96M for 96.5 additional FTEs * **Virtual School Admin Staff** - $5.37M for admin staff costs for five virtual schools (P, VPs, Admin) * **Staff Training -** $1.14M to provide COVID-19 training to all occasional teachers and casual workers * **Technology** - $1.72M for IT software licenses, devices and internet connection for students * **Air Quality and Ventilation** - $6M to be used to for HEPA units and $0.92M for inspection costs and filter changes * **Transportation and PPE** – $2.75M to be used for any actual driver overtime costs, costs relating to noon hour routes, and PPE supplies not covered by MGCS * **Special Ed & Mental Health Supports** - $2.3M to be used for 8 Child Youth Workers, 9 Special Needs Assistants, 12 Educational Assistants and 2 Social Workers. * **PPE** - $0.46M for additional critical PPE supplies not covered by MGCS * **School Reopening Emerging Issues Funding** – $10.06M to be used for such things as PPE supplies, staffing, supply and technology costs * **High Priority Areas Funding** - $8.98M to be used for staffing and technology costs   TDSB Additional Expenditures   * 280 elementary teachers hired using reserves * LTO teachers hired to support virtual schools * Technology * Virtual school administration * PPE and cleaning supplies   Shameen Sandu and Laura Shepherd  Special Needs & Mental Health/Well-Being  Social work (SW) services are available for families and students in brick & mortar and virtual school (*counseling, group work, classroom groups, consultations, case management, community resource links).*   * Students in virtual school are connected to their home school to maintain continuity and connection to their home school communities. * Virtual groups/in-person are available/are being created to enhance student/caregivers’ engagement to school and increase socialization; maintain healthy relationships; decrease isolation; enhance resilience and COVID coping skills. * **Ongoing Support and Connections:** Parent Conference PD *Supporting virtual learning for children with complex needs*; virtual/in school socialization/peer relationship groups *("Help I miss my friends“*-LD/ISP) ; Parent Information Groups---for students turning 16 and 18; student engagement/transitions (new/returning); student groups on anxiety & wellness; resources for parents/students and staff.   **Student/Caregivers**: one on one support for students; liaising families with community agencies; support and advocacy for students/families.  **Support groups with our community partners**: virtual/in-school support being provided in collaboration with TDSB with a variety of community partners (*Surrey Place, Griffin Centre, Geneva Centre, Bloorview Holland; Autism Ontario Program*).  **Staff support & resource**: equity and anti-oppression education, special needs resource compilations & forms, utilizing resources from School Mental Health Ontario (SMHO), stress management and supporting well-being strategies for positive student/family engagement for teaching staff; provide and share resource information with staff for the students/families .  Carolyn Lennox  David Schwarzbein  Psychological Services Assessment Statistics September 2020  LC 1 – Removed: 58; Completed: 7; Resolved\*: 65; In Progress: 44;  Waiting: 372; Total Referrals: 481  LC 2 – Removed: 30; Completed: 37; Resolved\*: 67; In Progress: 29;  Waiting: 171; Total Referrals: 263  LC 3 – Removed: 41; Completed: 2; Resolved\*: 43; In Progress: 36;  Waiting: 317; Total Referrals: 396  LC 4 – Removed: 68; Completed: 35; Resolved\*: 103; In Progress: 113;  Waiting: 488; Total Referrals: 704  TOTAL– Removed: 197; Completed: 81; Resolved\*: 278; In Progress: 222;  Waiting: 1,348; Total Referrals: 1,844  Slide 20  Psychological Services Assessment Statistics October 2020  LC 1 – Removed: 74; Completed: 70; Resolved\*: 144; In Progress: 100;  Waiting: 323; Total Referrals: 567  LC 2 – Removed: 45; Completed: 48; Resolved\*: 93; In Progress: 68;  Waiting: 190; Total Referrals: 362  LC 3 – Removed: 61; Completed: 5; Resolved\*: 66; In Progress: 124  Waiting: 345; Total Referrals: 535  LC 4 – Removed: 104; Completed: 96; Resolved\*: 200; In Progress: 168;  Waiting: 474; Total Referrals: 842  TOTAL– Removed: 284; Completed: 219; Resolved\*: 503; In Progress: 460;  Waiting: 1,332; Total Referrals: 2,306  **Psychological Services Activities 2020  Mental Health, Wellbeing, Equity and Student Learning**  **Student Well-Being and Mental Health**   * Direct individual counselling and group interventions (anxiety, depression, resilience) * Assisting the transition back to school for September 2020 * Hearts and Mind newsletters for parents * Presentations for parents and school staff   **Staff Well-Being**   * Mental Health PD * Consultations with teachers during COVID-19   **Equity, Human Rights, Anti-Oppression, Anti-Racism**   * Social justice groups and equity groups in collaboration with other disciplines * Use of assessment processes and instruments appropriate for students who are Culturally and Linguistically Diverse   **Student Academics – Literacy and Numeracy and Social Emotional Learning**   * Ready to Teach/Learn Modules concerning COVID-19 * Direct academic interventions and support * Teacher training in assessment, scoring, and linking to interventions * Consultation with teachers around Social Emotional Learning   **Building Partnerships**   * Community outreach * Development of website and resources for staff and families   **Special Education Support**   * Consultation around IEP development and implementation * Participation on IPRC and SEPRC committees   Shared resources: Hearts and Minds  <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Professional-Support-Services/Psychological-Services>   * Will share with SEAC any exceptionality specific resources that are available as well as Hearts and Minds newsletter   Discussion took place around the different numbers of referrals in different LC’s  Virtual School Update  Virtual School Update   * Over 61, 000 students in Elementary Virtual School   + 9, 000 students with Individual Education Plan * Over 17, 000 students in Secondary Virtual School   + 5, 000 students with Individual Education Plan   Angela Nardi-Addesa  Andrew Gold  Craig Snider  David Cameron |
| 5 | Trustees’ Report(s /Introductions   * PSCC update | Alexander Brown  Michelle Aarts   * Budget was submitted – highlighted special education – highlighted that the gap in special education funding is growing every year – now close to 59 million dollars – money that needs to be “found” * Were given 3 minutes to present budget |
| .6 | Working Groups -   * Budget/Communication/Sp. Ed. Plan/Action Plans | **Email was sent out with updated list of members of working groups**  **Groups are asked to meet prior to next Friday** |
|  | PR728 PR 728: Reporting and Responding to Racism and Hate Incidents Involving or Impacting Students in Schools | **DSAT received contact from a TDSB parent and the board of education responded following PR728 .** |
| 7. | SEAC Member Reports | Down Syndrome Association of Toronto – Canadian Down Syndrome Awareness Week – November 1 – 7  Announced Nomination for new Representative for VOICE (Shanna Lino)  Support group: Black Parents of Children with Disabilities  https://hollandbloorview.ca/stories-news-events/BLOOM-Blog/disability-and-mental-health-are-not-things-we-talk-about-black |
| 8 | Other business   * 1. Parents As Partners Conference - follow up   2. Correspondence/Email shared with SEAC Members <https://hollandbloorview.ca/stories-news-events/BLOOM-Blog/disability-and-mental-health-are-not-things-we-talk-about-black>   3. Correspondence/Email shared with SEAC members <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-man-hikes-bruce-trail-to-raise-awareness-of-brain-injuries-1.5165010> |  |
| 9. | Adjournment  Next Meeting: December 7, 2020 @ 7 pm - will be virtual | David Cameron’s Research Presentation was deferred until December 2020 |

Resources shared after the meeting:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/13OQPlCqi91cxafx-jRY4AaeguMdMXktxnxHnhOsqNv8/edit>

Link to all Hearts & Minds Newsletters

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Professional-Support-Services/Psychological-Services>

Index to Hearts & Minds articles and suggested resources [https://drive.google.com/file/d/11x\_I7qfow54F1sUDEYTsS-vpCO2qTKgI/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/11x_I7qfow54F1sUDEYTsS-vpCO2qTKgI/view?usp=sharing)

Learning Disability Association of Ontario <https://www.ldao.ca/>

Child Development Institute <http://www.childdevelop.ca/programs/integra-learning-disabilities-and-mental-health>

School Mental Health Ontario <https://smho-smso.ca/>

Canadian ADHD Resource Alliance <https://www.caddra.ca/>

Autism Canada <https://autismcanada.org/resources/#:~:text=Autism%20Canada%20has%20put%20together%20a%20number%20of,email%20us%20at%20info%40autismcanada.org%20or%20call%20%28519%29%20695-5858>.

Geneva Centre <https://www.autism.net/resources>

Family Service Toronto <https://familyservicetoronto.org/our-services/areas-of-expertise/developmental-disabilities/>

COVID-19 Resources specific for individual wit hI/DD and ASD and their families <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/0ANhawWrS7_TPUk9PVA>

Services for those with intellectual disability getting ready to live independently <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1v6C0xqqKlxzvXFOyr_k5_b21dkxSDImo>

Supporting individuals with autism through difficult times <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/11l2iXIB8mg9K8x0BeK9G1eo8n1GBt_d2>

Anxiety resources <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1v6C0xqqKlxzvXFOyr_k5_b21dkxSDImo>

The anxiety iceberg <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/11l2iXIB8mg9K8x0BeK9G1eo8n1GBt_d2>

Relaxation scripts for young children <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1v6C0xqqKlxzvXFOyr_k5_b21dkxSDImo>

Proressive Relaxation <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1lMAGAVjB2bzi9kknFv_ivBS3espk60db>

Integra Handbook for mental health and learning disabilities <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1I3imYLeQjXgwfJult7T2N7jqKW9n1VFB>

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Child Development Institute <http://www.childdevelop.ca/programs/integra-learning-disabilities-and-mental-health>

School Mental Health Ontario <https://smho-smso.ca/>

Canadian ADHD Resource Alliance <https://www.caddra.ca/>

Autism Canada <https://autismcanada.org/resources/#:~:text=Autism%20Canada%20has%20put%20together%20a%20number%20of,email%20us%20at%20info%40autismcanada.org%20or%20call%20%28519%29%20695-5858>.

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Family Service Toronto <https://familyservicetoronto.org/our-services/areas-of-expertise/developmental-disabilities/>

Ready to Learn webinar for caregivers

MATH <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1B25Mnzf36rpvdUQkuRehkcH6wCHISMGk/view?ths=true>

LGBT Youthline:  <https://www.youthline.ca/>

TDSB Gender-Based Violence Prevention team

<https://tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Innovation/Gender-Based-Violence-Prevention>

LGBTQ focused high school:  <http://triangleprogram.ca/>

519 Centre has quite a bit to offer:  <https://www.the519.org/>

Supporting Our Youth (SOY):  <https://soytoronto.com/>

Ready to Learn Caregiver webinar <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1hxi3fDXbu7MYEJAqfPqOpO9HnPL5oWn9>

Ready to Learn Webinar for Caregivers with children with complex needs <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1CUEoRclGB6ipvq922t8KxExZtgO5Ekml>

