



## TRILLIUM LAKELANDS DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE Minutes

Date: October 2, 2018  
Time: 5pm  
Location: Video Conference  
Members Present: J. Balfour, A. Brown, S. Bullock, Trustee J. Byrne,  
D. Callan, Trustee D. Morrison  
Regrets: S. O'Hare, R. McHugh  
Staff Present: J. Andreasen, L. Hope, J. Johnston, D. Sornberger

### ***Welcome & Introductions***

#### ***1. Approval of Agenda***

Moved by A. Brown, Seconded by S. Bullock.  
That the agenda be approved as presented  
Carried.

#### ***2. Approval of Minutes of the September 2018 SEAC Meeting***

Moved by A. Brown, Seconded by S. Bullock  
That the minutes from the September 2018 SEAC meeting be approved as  
presented  
Carried.

#### ***3. Department and System Updates***

Superintendent David Sornberger shared the following updates with SEAC:

- Focus this year in the Department of Specialized Services on:
  - Framing our work with: *Who* are Our Learners, *How* do we know, *What* do we do about it? (what programming do we have in place to meet their needs)
  - IEP Development- focus on the development of meaningful, program-oriented IEPs; IEP should not be used to *explain* gaps, rather used to *close* gaps
  - Having high expectations for all students
- Fundamentals of math is a theme in education currently across the province

District Principal Jennifer Johnston shared the following updates with SEAC:

- Staffing Update
  - The Department has hired our final Communicative Disorders Assistant (CDA)
    - Diana Nega- CDA for Muskoka
- Professional Learning:
  - Empower Reading Program is being piloted in TLDSB
    - Research based program developed at Sick Kids Hospital
    - Piloted in 5 Learning Strategies Programs & 5 schools (chosen based on reading data)
    - Teachers participated in intensive training on how to deliver the Empower Program; program includes mentorship from staff at Sick Kids
    - Program focuses on decoding in reading with 4-6 students; 1 hour of instruction 4x per week (or 50 minutes 5x per week)
  - Speech and Language Services Model
    - The Department of Specialized Services recently hosted an Adobe Connect to share new model of Speech Language Services in TLDSB (4 CDAs + 4 SLPs)
    - Model focuses on: providing services for non-verbal, phonological awareness and comprehensive assessment (with programming goals with school or CDA to implement)
    - A presentation will occur at a future SEAC meeting about new Speech and Language Services Model
  - October 26 Professional Activity Day:
    - Teachers will have a math focus and be working in schools
    - EAs will attend a full day of learning in Haliburton around ABA in partnership with Tri County Community Support Services, Kinark and Point in Time. The day will be around using ABA to support student learning.

#### **4. Presentation- Strategic Directions (Director Larry Hope)**

- Director of Education Larry Hope shared information about the board's focus for 2018-2019. Themes and directions include:
  - Strong and consistent communication
  - Having high expectations for everyone (programming, supports, academics, social interactions, in the community)
  - Student voice & Parent/Guardian/Community voice
  - Data/ evidence in relation to the effectiveness of programs/teaching
  - [Improving Education Outcomes for Students with Disabilities](#)

## **5. Presentation- EQAO Results (Superintendent David Sornberger)**

- Superintendent David Sornberger shared the 2017-2018 EQAO results and OSSLT results for Students with Special Needs with SEAC. Next steps/ action plans include:
  - Deeper understanding of Focussing on the Fundamentals for Math including:
    - Focus on facts & practice
    - Teaching recall
    - Return to independent practice in math (balance between inquiry and practice; group work and independent practice)
  - Refocused deployment and use of Instructional Leads
  - Leverage expertise from assessment staff for targeted programming for students with a learning disability
  - Increased collaboration between curriculum and special education to support teachers, Instructional Leads, Principals and consultants to close gaps for students.
- The EQAO presentation will be shared on the SEAC Team Drive

## **6. SEAC Projects 2018-2019**

- Parent Survey (Janice Balfour)
  - Next steps
    - DSC-PIC: Jennifer Johnston will be presenting to DSC-PIC on Jan 17; presentation referenced last year will be updated
    - Public report with results: Janice Balfour & Jennifer Johnston will connect with Catherine Shedden about preparing a public report
    - Department Action Plan is taking into account the results from the IEP Survey (especially regarding communication)
- Special Education Plan Review Sections 3-6
  - District Principal Jennifer Johnston shared the recommended changes to sections 3-6 of the Special Education Plan with SEAC.
    - Goals for the review process include:
      - Align Special Education Plan with new Special Education in Ontario Policy & Resource Guide (2017)
      - Alignment of language between ministry documents and board documents and practice
      - Simplify and clarify the language, make the plan easier to access

- SEAC members were welcomed to review the documents in the team drive and provide any feedback to Jenn Johnston via email or commenting in the documents by Oct 12, 2018
- In November we will review sections 7, 8 & 9

## **7. Updates & Other Items for Discussion**

- December 4, 2018 SEAC Meeting- Conflict with the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board
  - SEAC agreed that the December SEAC meeting would be moved to Tuesday, Dec 11, 2018

## **8. Association and Community News**

- Stacey Bullock from Community Living Huntsville shared that:
  - The organization has received a lot of positive feedback from families about transitions into schools for JK/SKs
  - Thursday, October 4, 2018- 2 speakers will be coming to Community Living Huntsville to speak on person-centered planning and outcomes; there will be a Principal and Special Education Head from HHS in attendance.
  - ReAction4Inclusion conference will occur in March: the Rotary Club in Huntsville is sponsoring students and adults to participate in conference.
- Darlene Callan from FCCC shared with SEAC:
  - FCCC recently received notification that data sharing agreements are occurring between LHINs and CTCs; there is no funding associated with the transfer but hoping to gain efficiencies by having a single source provider.
- Community Member Janice Balfour shared with SEAC:
  - LDAO is still working toward Chapter status in Lindsay and Haliburton areas; the Children's Advocate identified LDAO services as a gap in area this past summer which is assisting with forward movement.

## **9. Correspondence**

- None

### **10. Future Business**

- November
  - New SEAC Orientation Planning
  - Update on Special Needs Strategy
  - Speech and Language Services Update
  - EDI Presentation

### **11. Next Meeting**

Tuesday, November 6, 2018  
Via videoconference

### **12. Adjournment**

Moved by A. Brown  
That the meeting be adjourned  
Carried.

### **13. Dinner**