

## AGENDA

### Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 15, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Boardroom, Catholic Education Centre

*Mission: Disciples of Christ, nurturing mind, body, and soul to the fullness of life.*

*Vision: Changing the world through Catholic education.*

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2. Special Education Plan: S. Baiana
3. PROGrant Employment Fair Presentation: L. Pincente

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June 12, 2024

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# OPENING PRAYER

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Generous Father,

We are grateful for the gift of Mary, the mother of your Son, Jesus.

This humble servant of yours, the daughter of Anne and Joachim, brought hope and the dawn of a new world.

She serves as an inspiration, and source of hope for all of us.

Our lives are richer because of her humility, her wisdom, and her unconditional love.

We pray that, like Mary, we may remain obedient to your will and become a source of light to this world.

AMEN





# Land Acknowledgement

We are here to pay respect and recognize that this is the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nations, and we are here because this land was occupied. In recognizing that this space occupies colonized First Nations territories, and out of respect for the rights of Indigenous people, it is our collective responsibility to recognize our colonial histories and present-day implications and honour, protect and sustain this land.



“Tree of Love” by DPCDSB Student Artist: Lorenzo Agra-Georges Vanier

**MINUTES**

**Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 7:00 p.m.  
Boardroom, Catholic Education Centre**

Attendees:	<p>Bruno Iannicca Dely Farrace Heather Bialowas Myra Del Rosario Caroline Huxtable Christine Koczmaro Lisa Papaloni Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi</p>	<p>Trustee - Chair Brampton Caledon Community Living - Vice Chair - Representative Down Syndrome Assoc. of Peel: Caring Network - Representative ABC Association for Bright Children - Representative Epilepsy South Central Ontario - Representative Community Living Mississauga - Representative Learning Disabilities Association of Peel Region - Representative Alternate Trustee</p>
Regrets:	<p>Luz del Rosario Thomas Thomas Airene Cunanan Liza Dowson  Janice Hatton Debbie Hammond  Shanna Walsh Pam Boniferro  Andrea Isaac Laurie-Anne Clark</p>	<p>Alternate Chair Alternate Trustee Autism Ontario, Peel Chapter - Alternative Ontario Association for Families of Children with Communication Disorders - Representative Autism Ontario, Peel Chapter - Representative Dufferin-Peel Educational Resource Workers' Association - Representative Down Syndrome Assoc. of Peel: Caring Network - Alternative Dufferin-Peel Educational Resource Workers' Association - Alternative OECTA Elementary - Alternative Member at Large, Central Committee for Catholic School Councils</p>
Staff:	<p>Sabrina Baiana Sharon Chambers Pina Grosso Cristine Pergotski Laura Pincente Katherine Magee  Peter Cusumano Lucy Papaloni Alexandra Lawrence</p>	<p>Coordinator, Diverse Learning Needs Principal, Vice Principal Association, Elementary Chief of Social Work Association of Professional Student Services Personnel Coordinator, Secondary Transitions and Diverse Learners Executive Assistant, Special Education and Learning Services - Recorder Principal, Vice Principal Association, Secondary Superintendent, Special Education and Learning Services Coordinator, Special Education</p>

**A. Routine Matters**

1. Call to Order and Attendance  
Chair of SEAC, Bruno Iannicca, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Opening Prayer - S. Baiana
3. Land Acknowledgment - L. Pincente
4. Approval of Agenda

**THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.**

**CARRIED**

5. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting, March 20, 2024

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING, MARCH 20, 2024, BE APPROVED.**

**CARRIED**

6. Previous Business

**B. Presentations and Staff Reports**

1. Financial Services Presentation: J. Cherepacha, C. Salemi, G. Arangio, D. Santucci

Trustee Bruno Iannicca welcomed J. Cherepacha, Executive Superintendent of Finance, CFO and Treasurer, C. Salemi, General Manager of Finance, G. Arangio, Budget Manager and D. Santucci, Grants Supervisor. Executive Superintendent Cherepacha presented budget information for the current year as well as forecasts for the following year. She explained the ongoing Budget Planning Cycle. Executive Superintendent Cherepacha talked about the challenges for the year. C. Salemi presented the Provincial budget and the Ministry investment in staffing. As well, she explained the decline in enrolment, the 5 Year Special Education Envelope and the Special Education Per Pupil Amount (SEPPA). G. Arangio explained details of the Special Education Envelope. Executive Superintendent Cherepacha mentioned challenges for the upcoming year and noted that a copy of the presentation will be provided.

Lisa Papaloni asked if the SEPPA depends on the number of students. Executive Superintendent Cherepacha answered yes, it is based on total enrolment. Lisa Papaloni asked if this is the same for all school boards. Executive Superintendent Cherepacha answered yes. Lisa Papaloni asked if the percentage of incidents is the same for other boards and would this amount be equitably dispersed. Executive Superintendent Cherepacha answered that this is one of the concerns, the equitable distribution of funding. With SEPPA, each board receives the same amount. So, if a board has increasing enrolment, they will be doing better due to more funding. You will see differentiation with other grants such as SIP.

Lisa Papaloni asked how we compare to other boards in terms of ratio of Special Education students. Executive Superintendent Cherepacha answered that our school board is in a more urban setting, closer to resources, so families with special needs are moving closer to access these resources. Therefore, our incidence rates are higher. They have asked the Ministry to review this model. Lisa Papaloni asked if there is a plan to address the decline in employment. Executive Superintendent Cherepacha answered that Secondary enrolment is steady and we are getting all the students possible for Elementary. All school boards are getting lower FDK enrolment. Trustee Bruno Iannicca added that this issue is constantly under discussion. D. Farrace asked if this school board will accept non-Catholic students. Trustee Bruno Iannicca answered that in Secondary, yes, but not in Elementary. D. Farrace asked if this can be reviewed. Trustee Bruno Iannicca answered that Dufferin-Peel does not. If non-Catholic students are allowed in, then why do we have a Catholic system. C. Koczmar asked why is this allowed in high schools. Executive Superintendent Cherepacha answered that this is due to a condition of Ministry funding. C. Koczmar asked if the Peel board is also experiencing a decline in enrolment. Executive Superintendent Cherepacha answered yes, they are also experiencing this. C. Koczmar asked about the process for tax allocation. Executive Superintendent Cherepacha answered that we receive a specific amount from the GSN model. We receive funds from the Municipal tax collection and the Ministry makes up the difference. C. Koczmar asked if she has a question after reviewing the presentation handouts, who can she contact. Executive Superintendent Cherepacha answered that she can send it to Katherine and she will forward to the presenters. Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi mentioned that there is also a discussion about allowing the Coptic Orthodox Church to attend our board. Many Catholic boards are allowing this. Currently, our board is not.

2. Skills Competition: T. Abbruscato

T. Abbruscato presented the Skills Competition results. She discussed the number of schools registered, the total number of competition categories, the number of competitors and the number of competitors with Individual Education Plans. The Dufferin-Peel Catholic DSB was the only school board with an alternative curriculum category at the skills competition in Job Demonstration, Interview Skills, Coding and Data Input. She showed a video created with the students in the Skills Competition.

3. SEAC Input into Board Budget: S. Baiana

Superintendent Papaloni introduced S. Baiana to present on the SEAC input into Board budget. S. Baiana thanked all those who provided input into the board budget. This will be presented at the next SEAC meeting.

**C. Budget - Nil**

**D. Reports from Trustees for Receipt**

Trustee Bruno Iannicca gave an update on student transportation, mentioning that there is a delay with the software Chipmunk and it will be launched once the bugs are fixed. He explained that the projected enrolments have been fairly accurate. He mentioned higher costs for renting facilities and a need to recover costs. The Kindergarten to grade 12 curriculum report will be forwarded when he receives it. He received a parent concern regarding a flyer in a library book.

**E. Information/Reports from Community Associations**

C. Koczmaro mentioned that May is Community Living Month.

**F. Information and Correspondence**

## 1. Letter from Parent - Invitation: Superintendent Papaloni

Superintendent Papaloni discussed a letter from a parent inviting all students to a prom that they are hosting. This flyer will be posted on the board website community bulletin. Trustee Bruno Iannicca asked the committee members to spread the information to their communities. C. Huxtable asked if this is open to all grade 12 students or just graduating grade 12 students. The parent answered that it is for all grade 12 students to be able to have this experience. C. Huxtable asked if it was the expectation that if support is needed, that the parent provides this? The parent answered yes, the parents must provide the support. D. Farrace thanked the parent and appreciated how inclusive this was. The Parent answered yes, everyone is included.

## 2. Letter from Durham Catholic District School Board to the Minister: Superintendent Papaloni

Superintendent Papaloni presented the letter from the Durham Catholic District School Board to the Minister. The letter was requesting core funding to support organizations which provide programs and services for adults with ASD.

**G. Communication - Nil****H. Questions Asked by Committee Members**

C. Koczmaro mentioned that she has a question for Executive Superintendent Cherepacha. Superintendent Papaloni asked her to email Katherine and she will forward to Executive Superintendent Cherepacha. Lisa Papaloni asked about last month's presentation by Superintendent Vecchiarino, regarding the process for feedback being incorporated. Superintendent Papaloni answered that she should send her question to Katherine to forward to Superintendent Vecchiarino. C. Koczmaro wanted to thank Max for the survey link that was sent out. H. Bialowas announced that she will be resigning in June from the Down Syndrome Association of Peel.

**I. Future Meetings**

May 15, 2024

June 12, 2024

**CARRIED**

**J. Adjournment**

**Moved by C. Koczmaro**

**THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 8:13P.M.**

**CARRIED**