



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board

Minutes

Catholic Education Centre
322 Fairview Drive
Brantford, ON N3R 2X6

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE Tuesday, May 17th, 2022 – 1pm Teams Meeting

Members: Kevin Greco (*Superintendent of Education*), Bill Chopp (*Trustee*), Laura Bergeron (*ad hoc*), Lauren Freeborn, Mischa Dinsmore, Christina Ferrell, Nil Woodcroft, Shannon Korber, Brandi Bertling, Kim Fraser, Marissa Lechowicz

Absent: Tara Buchanan

Resources: Carmen McDermid (*Student Achievement Lead: Special Education*), Shannon Mason (*Principal Lead: Special Education Staffing*), Kerri Lomax (*VP, Secondary*), Patti Mitchell (*Parent, County of Brant*)

1. Land Acknowledgement

Superintendent Greco led with a land acknowledgement.

2. Opening Prayer

Carmen McDermid shared an opening prayer.

3. Approval of Agenda

Approved: Christina Ferrell

Seconded: Patti Mitchell

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the agenda of the May 17, 2022, meeting.

4. Approval of the Minutes

Approved: Nil Woodcroft

Seconded: Christina Ferrell

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approved the minutes of the April 19, 2022, meeting.

5. Review of Special Education Annual Budget

Superintendent of Business and Treasurer Scott Keys, and Jagoda Kirilo, Manager of Finance, introduced themselves to the group. They shared an overview of the Special Education budget and answered questions the committee brought forward. The information they shared will be sent to committee members.

6. Correspondence

6.1 York Catholic District School Board Letters (2)

6.2 Near North District School Board Letter

7. Community Agency Updates

Committee members welcomed Kim Fraser to the group. Kim is joining us from Child and Family Services of Grand Erie.

Bill Chopp – Trustee

No new updates.

Kim Fraser/Brandi Bertling – Child and Family Services of Grand Erie

The amalgamation continues, along with learning new agency and staff processes/meetings. Looking forward to summer camps for the children. The agency celebrated May 14th – Child in Care Day and handed out treat bags to children.

Shannon Korber – Child and Family Services of Grand Erie

Currently working on access to tutors and tutoring programs. Children are in need of an adult outside of their regular caregiver to help them with their schoolwork. Anyone with contacts or know of someone interested was asked to reach out to Shannon via email.

Christina Ferrell – Woodview

Woodview underwent a makeover in their waiting room through the Smilezone foundation, which makes spaces safe and appealing to children. A ribbon cutting ceremony is taking place to showcase the new space. Brantford Autism Services offers programs/groups for children ages 4-12 years old, and information has been released on our website. Woodview is welcoming a new Executive Director Flora Ennis taking effect September 4, 2022. Woodview is undergoing a service change, A Choice in Partnership Approach (CAPPA), that will help with waitlists. Families to receive letters inviting them to come in for a session to discuss needs in hopes of guiding them to a service. A video will be created and shared to help with understanding this change.

Kerri Lomax – VP, Secondary

Six (6) Job Skills students at two high schools have participated in the World of Work program. One student who was placed at Home Hardware was offered a job. Through the Experiential Learning Grant at St. John's College a greenhouse was purchased. Students were able to grow plants and organized it as a business where plants were sold for Mother's Day. This was also featured in The Brantford Expositor.

Mischa Dinsmore – Lansdowne

The Ministry of Social Services will be coming in to assess the space at Lansdowne. There is a new Family Engagement Coordinator who will guide Lansdowne's policies and procedures to be more in line with what families need/want. There are now 3 intake coordinators instead of one central coordinator, and 4 schedulers. Lansdowne has off-site locations that are running in Dunnville, Caledonia, and Simcoe. Grand River Pediatrics is the new name of Dr.Klein's Clinical Services. Two new graduates of the pediatric residency program at McMaster joined Dr.Klein-Dr. Oyefesso and Dr.McCuster. July 8th is the Lansdowne Charity Motorcycle event and ticket sales are on our website:

<https://lansdownemotorcycleride.com/>.

If anyone supports a student who is seeking training/education post-secondary who has received services from a children's treatment centre registered with Empowering Kids Ontario (formally known as Ontario Association of Children's Rehabilitation Services-OACRS) can apply for a scholarship through EKO's website.

Nil Woodcroft – Haldimand-Norfolk REACH

Haldimand-Norfolk REACH continues to meet with both Boards regarding the Entry to School programs. Want to ensure services are not being duplicated between the various services offered. The goal is to have seamless and successful transitions. Hoping to touch base in September/October with the Boards to see how the transition programs went.

Patti Mitchell – Parent, County of Brant

No new reports from Parents. Special Olympics have their spring sports start this week, more information can be found on our website.

Lauren Freeborn – Contact Brant

The Urgent Response Services (URS) program has now started. Reminder this service is for youth who are registered in the Ontario Autism Program and is a rapid response for recent high-risk behaviour that has occurred in the past 14 days.

8. Reports

8.1 Superintendent of Education

Superintendent Greco shared budget discussion are at the forefront along with staffing and planning initiatives that are taking place for next year.

8.2 Special Education Lead

Community of Practice was held on April 26th with presentations that were well received and sparked a lot of discussion.

Primary and Junior students are busy writing EQAO up until June 24th.

Have a Go is coming up on June 8th, rain date is June 9th. This program is being held at Burford Community Centre for our elementary students.

The Tri-High Games for secondary will be on June 9th. Working on locations.

Grade 2 CCAT has been completed. Results are in but have not been shared yet, hoping to share next week.

April 22 was our Professional Development day. Feedback and responses regarding the sessions are being collected and reviewed.

9. Closing Remarks/Adjournment

June meeting will be on Teams but we will discuss moving forward if in-person meetings are preferred.

Next meeting date, time, location: June 21st, 2022 – 1pm, Microsoft Teams