

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

May 8, 2023



Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge we are on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognise the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples, as well as the importance of establishing and maintaining Cultural Safety through learning from Indigenous Peoples and Perspectives.



Agenda

	Item	Facilitator/ Presenter	Time/Notes	Action/Outcome
1.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Call to Order (quorum)2. Announce Live Streaming of meeting3. Land Acknowledgement4. Review/Approval of Agenda5. Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interests6. Approval of SEAC Minutes from April 11, 20237. Action Log Update	Chair	<p>7:00 - 7:15</p> <p>Meeting can be viewed live by clicking the Live Stream icon on the TDSB SEAC webpage.</p> <p>TDSB Live Webcast - Special Education Advisory Committee</p>	Information/Approval/ Update

2	MYSP Update (Multi-Year Strategic Plan)	Jean-Paul Ngana Michelle Aarts	7:15 - 7:25	Information
3.	Roadmap - Community Living Presentation	Tracey O'Regan Aline Chan	7:25 - 7:50	Information
4.	Leadership Report	Louise Sirisko Nandy Palmer	7:50 - 8:15	Information
5.	Round Table Update Working Group Update	All members	8:15 - 8:40	Update/Recommendation /Approval
6.	Trustees Report	Trustees	8:40 - 8:50	Update/Information

7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Other Business ● Correspondence <p>Letter from Rainy River School Board SEAC (SIP Funding)</p> <p>Letter from Ontario Public School Boards Association (OADA Review)</p> <p>Letter from Near North District School Board (SIP Funding) ● Adjournment</p> <p>Membership Updates - Member for Voice - Bronwen Alsop Alternate for Voice - Stephanie Ragany Alternate for Sawubona Africentric Circle of Support – Pinke Mentore Next meeting - Hybrid format June 12, 2023</p>	Chair	8:50 - 9:00	Update/Information
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Incorporating Universal Design for Learning and Differentiated Instruction through Assistive Technology Digital Tools

The Assistive Technology Team is offering hands-on professional learning sessions throughout the Spring to support CLs/ACLs of Special Education, along with secondary teachers and support staff with implementing accommodations in inclusive classrooms that incorporate Universal Design for Learning and Differentiated Instruction. Three different tools will be covered in the sessions:

1. OrbitNote in the Secondary Classroom: Interacting with Accessible & Actionable PDF Documents;
2. Mindomo in the Secondary Classroom: Using Digital Graphic Organizers; and
3. WeVideo Online Video Editor in the Secondary Classroom.

Professional Learning Sessions for Educators of Intensive Support Programs

In April, Special Education and Inclusion staff presented additional sessions for teachers and support staff on supporting students in Intensive Support Programs - ISPs (e.g., ASD, DD ISP, MID, Gifted, etc.). These additional sessions provided an opportunity for educators and support staff to learn and explore inclusionary practices specific to the exceptionality in an ISP setting.

Participants deepened their understanding of the intersection of anti-ableism, anti-oppression and anti-racism and discussed ways in which students can effectively be integrated.

TDSB Ukrainian Welcome Fair

Special Education and Inclusion joined the TDSB Ukrainian Welcome Fair on Saturday, April 15, 2023 at Western Technical Commercial School as part of the carousel of services and supports for families. Information on Special Education and Inclusion programs, services and supports were shared. Over 300 participants attended the fair.

Parent Engagement Session #3 Reminder

Special Education and Inclusion will be offering a third parent/guardian/caregiver session on Tuesday, May 30th and Wednesday, May 31st at 7:00 p.m. This session will focus on summer transitions and will include ideas to engage students during the summer months such as home activities, library resources and information on how to use Read & Write Gold at home. Information on community agencies will also be shared. There will be an opportunity for parents/guardians/caregivers to ask questions about these processes. The sessions will be facilitated by Special Education and Inclusion staff.

Multi-Year Strategic Plan CAC Consultations

As TDSB approaches the end of its current strategic plan, we are launching the Multi-year Strategic Plan Renewal. The strategic plan is the long-term vision for the TDSB, establishing clear priorities that will guide Trustees and system and school leaders over the next four years. The goal is to develop a four-year roadmap, driven by student-centered needs and goals that are equity-informed and evidence-based.

Members of the TDSB community will have opportunities to engage and reflect on the existing strategic plan and identify their priorities to create a more focused strategy. The most important contributor to the strategic planning process is the voice of the TDSB school community.

Throughout the next few months, we will be asking students, parents/guardians/caregivers, staff, community members and Community Advisory Committees to reflect on the current strategic priorities and goals and contribute to renewing the MYSP.

All members of the TDSB school community are invited to Have Your Say! We encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities listed on the [MYSP Renewal webpage](#) to contribute to the conversation.

Special Education Plan 2023-2024

The TDSB SEAC Subcommittee submitted their recommendations to staff for amendments to the current Special Education Plan. Staff thanks the subcommittee for their work. Recommendations from the committee as well as recommendations from families, community partners and school and department staff were taken under advisement and amendments made accordingly in order to ensure alignment with ministry standards and to create a more user-friendly and accessible document.

The next step will be for SEAC to approve the amendments to the plan, after which the plan will go to the Board of Trustees for approval so it can be submitted to the ministry.

Special Education and Inclusion Annual Report

The 2022-2023 Annual Report was shared with the Program and School Services Committee (PSSC) on April 12, 2023 for receipt and was approved at the Board meeting on April 27, 2023.

In an effort to create coherence and alignment of special education and inclusion practices, programs and structures across the TDSB to foster more inclusive environments for students with special education needs, the Special Education and Inclusion Department has been focusing on the following areas:

- Challenging and Dismantling Oppressive Structures;
- Capacity Building;
- Changing Mindsets; and
- Communication and Engagement.

These focus areas are interconnected and reflect the need for shared responsibility and shared accountability in serving students with special education needs, and indeed all students.

Restructuring of Special Education and Inclusion Learning Center (LC) Coordinators and Learning Network (LN) Consultants

Coordinator and Consultants will be restructured within the Special Education and Inclusion Department. The TDSB is divided into 4 Learning Centres. Each Learning Centre includes 6 Learning Networks. Currently, there are 8 Coordinators and 40 Consultants. We will be restructuring to have 12 Coordinators (3 assigned per Learning Centre) and 24 Consultants (1 per Learning Network). Increasing the number of Coordinators in each Learning Centre will allow for coherence and alignment of special education legislated practices and processes such as IPRCs and IEPs.

This model will lead to improved flow of information from school staff to superintendents, and will allow for shared responsibility and shared accountability for improved outcomes for students with special education needs. The restructuring will result in savings that will be analyzed through the budget development process as being revenue neutral to the department or contribute to deficit reduction and come for approval to the Board of Trustees.

