 <p>Special Needs Advisory Committee</p>	<p>Please visit our website: http://snac.lbpsb.qc.ca</p> <p>NOTE New Email address: snac@lbpearson.ca</p>	<p>SNAC Report to the Council of Commissioners, Parents' Committees and Education Committees</p> <p>From SNAC Meeting of January 20, 2016 Page 1 of 2</p>
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Meeting Attendance:

The SNAC meeting of January 20th was well attended by 18 SNAC members and 3 members of the public. Members representing outside committees, unions and associations included: D. Olivenstein of Council of Commissioners, M.-E. Claude of S.S.D., E. Oolsthorn of S.S.D., R. Gilmartin of I.A.S.S., M. Hunt of P.E.P., D. Martire of P.A.S.A., and A. Tennant of P.T.U.

SNAC IEP Parent-to-Parent Workshop on February 2nd, 2016:

SNAC will be hosting an IEP workshop entitled “**An IEP Journey: A Parent to Parent Perspective**” on Tuesday, February 2nd at 7pm in the main boardroom of the LBPSB Head Office. All parents of students with an IEP are welcome to attend this free workshop. For more information and to register, please visit the SNAC website: <http://snac.lbpsb.qc.ca/>.

Major School Change—Transition Plan Document:

On November 17th, 2015, three SNAC members participated in the MSC Public Hearing in Verdun. One of the primary recommendations of SNAC was that the school board commit to preparing a written plan of action, with input from parents and students concerned, to help with transitions for those students with special needs that are affected by the MSC process. The SNAC brief was well received by the Council of Commissioners and SNAC was asked to prepare some recommendations for a Transition Plan. The document is being finalized and will be presented to Council after final approval by SNAC.

IEP Parent Representative on Governing Board:


Further to SNAC's and CPC's efforts last year, a new role of IEP Parent Representative on Governing Board was introduced this year. So far, SNAC is aware of 8 Elementary and 2 High School representatives that have been elected to their GBs, while there may be more that have yet to contact SNAC. SNAC is very pleased with this excellent start to the initiative. A Q&A document to clarify the role of this position has been approved by SNAC, for the purposes of responding to questions that have been raised by various GBs. The document will be shared with CPC with the hope that SNAC can work together with CPC to further the adoption of this proposed position at even more schools in the future.

Bill 86 Parent Information Session:

SNAC parent members were encouraged to attend the Bill 86 Parent Information Session hosted by CPC on January 21st, 2016 at 7:30pm.

Emergency Preparedness:

SNAC had a discussion about school lockdown procedures and the issue of what would happen if a student with special needs was in the washroom when a lockdown situation occurred. In consultation with the SNAC PASA representative, it was noted that this particular scenario could represent a grey zone since the child may not respond to this type of stressful situation by staying locked in the bathroom stall or know to go to the closest classroom which is what might be the school's procedure in this case. SNAC advises that school administrators consider the specific training needs of these students when establishing their emergency preparedness procedures.

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Contract Negotiations:

The PTU, IASS and PEP representatives to SNAC provided an update on recent votes to support a new contract. PTU also voted to keep the “work to rule” as status quo, however the union may revisit the issue after reviewing how the other school board unions vote on the new contract.

Correspondence:

SNAC received two letters from parents which were discussed at the meeting. One deliberated the topic of mid-year school transfers and what the protocol was regarding this issue. The other dealt with the problem of having the allocation of integration aides only happen in mid-September which potentially causes a great deal of stress for students, parents and staff, and may require significant re-training of aides in some cases. SNAC members were made aware that a procedure exists to pair a specific aide with a student, but only in exceptional circumstances.

SNAC also received a response letter from MEESR to a letter that the committee sent at the end of last school year requesting that the government reconsider all of the cuts to education and support services for students with special needs.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, February 17th, 2016 at 7pm at the school board, Room 219/221 upstairs.

The meeting will begin with a presentation by LBPSB Director of Finance, France Daoust, on the topic of “**LBPSB Budget with regard to Special Needs**”. All parents of students with IEPs are welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Brett Hillgartner, Chairperson, LBPSB Special Needs Advisory Committee 2015-2016

Sandra Buckingham, LBPSB Parent Commissioner for Special Needs 2014-2016