

of the
Lester B. Pearson School Board

Annual Report 2017-2018



Special Needs Advisory Committee Members 2017-2018:

Parent Members

Jennifer DiMarco
Angela Berryman
Stephanie Shaffer
Donnalynn Rainey
Christine McLean
Sheila Moody
Kathy Robinson
Randi Spanier
Annette Banton
Mei Feng Chen
Leeann Blondin
Marie-Hélène David
Geneviève Raymond-Parent

Representative of the Director General

Dr. Cindy Finn (Director of Student Services)

PASA (School Administrators)

Brigitte Valois

PTU (Pearson Teachers Union)

Arlene Tennant

IASS (Independent Association of Support Staff)

Robert Gilmartin

Student Services Non Teaching Professionals (PEP)

Maureen Hunt

Council of Commissioners

Daniel Olivenstein

Community Representative (WIAIH)

Franca Kesic

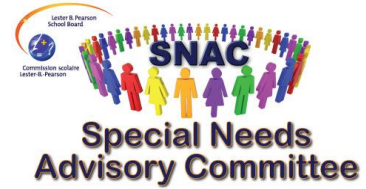
Executive:

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|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Chairperson | Jennifer DiMarco |
| Co-Vice Chair Elementary | Annette Banton |
| Co-Vice Chair High School | Sheila Moody |
| Special Needs Parent Commissioner | Angela Berryman |
| Secretary | Marie-Hélène David |
| Treasurer | Randi Spanier |

External Committee Representatives:

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|-----------------------|--|
| Parents' Committee | Donnalynn Rainey, Kathy Robinson (alternate) |
| Programs and Services | Geneviève Raymond-Parent |

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|-------------------------|------------------|
| SNAC Website and Emails | Jennifer DiMarco |
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SNAC Meeting Dates for 2017-2018:

September 27, 2017 ** AGA and selection of new parent members
October 18, 2017
November 15, 2017
December 11, 2017
January 17, 2018
February 21, 2018
March 21, 2018
April 18, 2018
May 16, 2018

The major goals of the committee this year were:

- Share available IEP kit folders with resource teachers
- Update the IEP Resource Kit
- Continue to support parents of students with IEP's or being introduced to IEP's.
- Update website regularly
- Promptly answer all questions and inquiries sent to SNAC email
- Encourage schools to add a link on their school's website to the SNAC website
- Provide information about SNAC to schools to use during kindergarten orientation and high school open houses - volunteer to attend on behalf of SNAC
- Redefine the role of parent rep for students with IEPs on governing boards...simplify it completely as there continues to be a lot of confusion.
- Continue to increase awareness of SNAC within the LBPSB community; contributing to the parents' committee newsletter and involvement in various LBPSB committees.
- Provide relevant professional development for parents: host a parent to parent workshop / information session

SNAC Presentation:

This year SNAC was pleased to make a presentation to LBPSB parents on March 27, 2018, entitled ***“The Art and Science of the IEP Process...Promoting Parental Engagement in Our Children’s Education”***. We had over 60 parents in attendance from several elementary and high schools within our school board. We covered topics such as - What is an IEP, Adaptations and Modifications, Supports Available, The Role of the Integration Aide, Dealing with Concerns and finally Engagement with Acceptance. A question and answer document has been made available under the FAQ tab on the SNAC website.

<http://snac.lbpsb.qc.ca/eng/extra/img/267QuestionsandAnswersfromMarch2018ParenttoParentEventFINAL.pdf>

Presentations to SNAC:

This year SNAC was fortunate enough to have several presentations made to them during their meetings. Those included:

- Dr. Cindy Finn presented on educating students with special needs in Quebec
- France D’Aoust presented on LBPSB budget allocation with regards to students with special needs
- CASP Presentation - Competency-based Approach to Social Participation by Jade Lawsane - Autism Consultant and Pamela Normandin - Special Needs Consultant
- The Importance of Self care...managing your stress before it manages you by Dr. Sazini Nzula the author of Beautiful Inside and Out.

Consultation Responses:

Consultation responses are listed on the SNAC website, under the “external reports” tab. This year SNAC provided a consultation response for each of the following:

- Evaluation of Student Learning (January 2018)
- Budget Consultation (March 2018)
- Field Trip and Extra Curricular Activities (March 2018)
- Commitment to Success Plan 2018-2022 (May 2018)
- By-Law I Fix Day/Time/Place of Regular meetings of the Council of Commissioners (May 2018)
- By-Law IE Fix Day/Time/Place of Regular meetings of the Executive Committee of the Council of Commissioners (May 2018)
- Three year Plan of Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2018-2021 (May 2018)
- Vision and Values Statement (May 2018)



Recommendations for the 2018-2019 Committee:

1. Continue to advise the school board on the organization of educational services for students with special needs
2. Continue to clarify and finalize the IEP liaison on Governing Board role. Attempt to seek approval from the council of commissioners
3. Make an official request to the Programs and Services committee asking for an alternate SNAC member to attend the meetings (as was done in the past)
4. Update SNAC Internal Rules once response from the Programs and Services Committee is received. Consider renaming the Special Needs Parent Commissioner: Parent Commissioner - Special Needs
5. Discuss the suggestion of sharing information about SNAC with parents when IEPs are sent out in the fall
6. Continue to explore ideas on how to communicate more effectively with parents of students with special needs (ex.) Should SNAC create a facebook business page like the Parents' Committee has?
7. Consider having a central location to host meeting files such as Basecamp. Consider asking if it is possible to join the parents committee account and pay our portion.
8. Finalize and approve new SNAC member kit
9. Continue to provide input into each of the newsletters the Parents' Committee publishes with contact information

The date of our Annual General Meeting and Selection of New Parent Members will be held on: Wednesday September 26, 2018 at 7 pm in the main boardroom at head office.

I would like to **thank** all members of the Special Needs Advisory Committee from 2017-2018 for their dedication, participation and hard work this year. Your time is valuable and giving up so much of it for our students and parents shows your commitment to our community. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jennifer DiMarco - Chairperson
LBPSB Special Needs Advisory Committee 2017-2018
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Email: snac@lbpearson.ca