



of the
Lester B. Pearson School Board

Annual Report 2018-2019

Special Needs Advisory Committee Members 2018-2019:

Parent Members

Jennifer DiMarco
Angela Berryman
Sheila Moody
Kathy Robinson
Randi Spanier
LeeAnn Blondin
Nadine Van Elslande
Lauren Broad
Evelyne Hornblower
Jaqueline Marien (resigned March)
Julia Orlando
Andrea Altman-Levy
Lisa Mancini

Representative of the Director General

Dr. Cindy Finn (Director of Student Services)

PASA (School Administrators)

Lindsay Weisbloom

PTU (Pearson Teachers Union)

Tracy Beiszez

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:

Chairperson
Co-Vice Chair Elementary
Co-Vice Chair High School
Special Needs Parent Commissioner
Secretary
Treasurer

Jennifer DiMarco
Nadine Van Elslande
Sheila Moody
Angela Berryman
Evelyne Hornblower
Lauren Broad

External Committee Representatives:

Parents' Committee
Programs and Services

Jennifer DiMarco, Lisa Mancini (alternate)
Kathy Robinson, Sheila Moody (alternate)

SNAC Website and Emails

Jennifer DiMarco / Sheila Moody

SNAC Meeting Dates for 2018-2019:

AGA and selection of new parent members September 26, 2018 **

September 26, 2018

October 10, 2018

November 21, 2018

January 16, 2019

February 20, 2019

March 27, 2019

April 17, 2019

May 8, 2019

The major goals of the committee this year were:

- Share available IEP kit folders with resource teachers
- Update the IEP Resource Kit incorporating feedback from PTU
- Continue to support parents of students with I.E.P.'s or being introduced to I.E.P.'s.
- Update website regularly
- 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
- Continue to increase awareness of SNAC within the LBPSB community; contributing to the parents' committee newsletters and involvement in various LBPSB committees
- Provide relevant professional development for parents: host a parent to parent workshop / information session in Spring 2019
- Create and purchase standing banners and desk banners for meetings and open houses
- Print Fair vs Equal Posters for schools

SNAC Parent Information Presentation:

This year SNAC was pleased to host a Parent Information Evening April 3, 2019. Understanding the influence of stress and anxiety in our children and ourselves. Guest Speakers Dr. Zmira King-Elbaz and Janna Gillis from the Centre of Excellence for Mental Health.

Presentations to SNAC:

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

- James Maurais and Sean Connell presented to SNAC on the Mighty Hawks special needs soccer program <https://slhsoccer.com/en/mighty-hawks/>
- Dr. Cindy Finn presented on educating students with special needs in Quebec (November 2018) <http://snac.lbpsb.qc.ca/eng/webcasts/page.asp>
- France D'Aoust, presented on LBPSB budget allocation with regards to students with special needs (February 2019)

Consultation Responses:

Consultation responses are listed on the SNAC website, under the consultations tab.

<http://snac.lbpsb.qc.ca/eng/Consultations/page.asp>

This year SNAC provided a consultation response for each of the following:

- Budget Consultation (March 2019)
- By-Law I Fix Day/Time/Place of Regular meetings of the Council of Commissioners (March 2019)
- By-Law IE Fix Day/Time/Place of Regular meetings of the Executive Committee of the Council of Commissioners (March 2019)
- Director General Selection Criteria (April 2019)
- Major School Change Consultation Response (April 2019)

Recommendations for the 2019-2020 Committee:

1. Continue to advise the school board on the organization of educational services for students with special needs
2. Host a parent information session in the fall on IEPs
3. Continue to clarify and finalize the IEP liaison on Governing Board role. Attempt to seek approval from the council of commissioners
4. Discuss the suggestion of sharing information about SNAC with parents when IEPs are sent out in the fall
5. Continue to explore ideas on how to communicate more effectively with parents of students with special needs (ex.) Should SNAC create a facebook page like the Parents' Committee has?
6. Look into having a central location to host meeting files such as Basecamp ?
7. Create and approve new SNAC member kit
8. 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 25, 2019 at 7 pm in the main boardroom at head office.

I would like to **thank** all members of the Special Needs Advisory Committee from 2018-2019 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 2018-2019

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