# ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

### SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, January 18, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Catholic Education Centre, Wallaceburg - St. Louis Conference Room

# MINUTES

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**:

Community Living Wallaceburg

Community Living Chatham-Kent

Epilepsy Support Centre

VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children

Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County

Lambton County Developmental Services

Carla Alway

Learning Disabilities Association – Chatham Kent

Derek McGivern

Derek McGivern

Derek McGivern

Tabitha Vercillo

Kathy Arcuri-Arnott

Kim D'Hooghe

Carla Alway

Clare Latimer

Trustee Michelle Parks
John Van Heck

Principals Representatives Cynthia Blair

Stacy Shepley Juli Faubert Ed Freeburn

Board Advisors Deb Crawford

Brendan Deery Janet Boyle Sara Vadovic Christine Preece Lisa Thompson-Power

Regrets: John Van Heck, Tabitha Vercillo

Absent:

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Welcome & Opening Prayer
- B. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION BY Derek Jane and seconded by Clare Latimer to adopt the agenda.

**CARRIED** 

C. Review of Minutes from November 16, 2015

**MOTION BY** Cathy Arcuri-Arnott and seconded by Clare Latimer to accept the minutes from the November 16, 2015 SEAC meeting.

**CARRIED** 

#### 2. PRESENTATIONS

A. ACCESS Canada Presentation

Chris Preece

Chatham-Kent Health Alliance (CKHA) and the Canadian Mental Health Association Lambton Kent (CMHA LK) recently announced their involvement in ACCESS Canada, a newly established national research network focused on using research evidence to create positive change to how care is provided to young people with mental illness. This \$25 million five-year research project is the first of its kind. Chatham-Kent is one of six sites throughout Canada which is part of ACCESS Canada and the only site in Ontario. This initiative will bring additional mental health resources for youth/young adults (ages 14-25) to the community and is expected to "transform" youth mental health services. The project in C-K will be called "Open Minds" with the site projected to be open in November 2016. If successful, a site may be opened in S-L. ACCESS Canada stands for: Adolescent/young adult; Connections to; Community-driven; Early; Strengths-based and stigma-free; Services.

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B. Behaviour Management System

Sara Vadovic

The Behaviour Management System (BMS) program is replacing Non-Violent Crisis Intervention (NVCI) in the Board. It is an educationally-based program, involving a 6-hour training session. Foundational to BMS are non-physical techniques; understanding verbal and non-verbal cues; being conscious of body language; non-judgmental communication (tone, facial expression); calming and diffusing dialogue; and understanding needs (antecedents). The implementation plan is a 2-year plan: Train the trainers over a 3-day session (5 trainers); all EAs on the first 2 PD Days; Student Support Teams; 1-day training with all of the members of the Emergency Response Team from each school. A half-day refresher is required every 2 years. Excellent feedback has been received from the staff who have received the training as well as from other Boards that are also using BMS.

### 3. ASSOCIATION REPORTS

A. Community Living Wallaceburg

Derek McGivern

- David Katzman, Executive Director of Community Living, Wallaceburg retired after 27 years.
   Deborah Hook is the new Executive Director.
- B. Community Living Chatham-Kent

Derek Jane

No Report

C. Epilepsy Support Centre

Tabitha Vercillo

No Report

D. VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children

Kathy Arcuri-Arnott

No Report

E. Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County

Kim D'Hooghe

No Report

F. Lambton County Developmental Services

Carla Always

- Lambton County Developmental Services has named Tom McCallum from Elgin County as the new Executive Director.
- G. Learning Disabilities Association Chatham Kent

Clare Latimer

 There is a series of 2016 After School Programs being offered through the Learning Disabilities Association - Chatham Kent. They include Social Skills, Tutoring, SOAR (Secondary School Preparation Course), and Assistive Technology.

#### 4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

A. N/A

# 5. NEW BUSINESS

A. N/A

#### 6. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Sowing the Seeds for Literacy Conference – February 20, 2016

Janet Boyle

"Sowing the Seeds" for Literacy is a one-day conference for early years educators, including ECE and Kindergarten teachers, librarians, daycare workers and others working with children birth to 6 years of age. This is the 10<sup>th</sup> year for this conference and it is being held on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at Lambton College Residence and Event Centre in Sarnia. The theme of the day is "Language, Literacy and Loose Parts Play". The keynote speaker is Jeff Johnson, an internationally known educator, author, and presenter in the field of early childhood education. The Committee consists of representatives from Pathways Health Centre for

Children, SCCDSB, LKDSB, Lambton's Children's Planning Network, County of Lambton, Ontario Early Years Centres and Soundstart.

### B. Special Education Report

**Brendan Deery** 

• There have been no significant changes since the last meeting.

## 7. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

A. At the Initial Board Meeting in December, John Van Heck was elected Chair and Michelle Parks was elected as Vice-Chair. Board members may be rotating to different committees throughout the year. Tentative agreements for OECTA, CUPE and EWAO were ratified.

### 8. QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

A. N/A

9. NEXT MEETING DATE: February 29, 2016 at 7:00pm.

# 10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

A. N/A

### 11. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY** Cathy Arcuri-Arnott and seconded by Kim D'Hooghe to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 pm.

**CARRIED**