

# ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, November 27, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

Catholic Education Centre, Wallaceburg – St. Louis Conference Room

Please contact Niki Ritchie at 1-866-336-6139 ext. 388  
if you are unable to attend this meeting

## MINUTES

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Autism Society Ontario	TBA
Community Living, Chatham-Kent	Sue McMath
Community Living, Wallaceburg	Dr. Veronica Vaughan
Down Syndrome Association of Lambton County	Michele LaLonge-Davey
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Effect Group	Martha Fracalanza
Lambton County Developmental Services Group	Adrian Vermeiren
Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent	Fabrizia Romano
Learning Disabilities Association of Lambton County	Annie Sheehan
VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children	Kathy Arcuri-Arnott
Trustee	Marie Cadotte
Trustee	Mike Neuts
Principals' Association	Maureen Cecile
Vice-Principals' Association	Americo Todino
Board Advisors	Martin Forster
	Dr. Frank Leddy
	Brenda Roby
	Lisa Thompson
	Renée Zarebski

Regrets: Maureen Cecile, Mike Neuts, Lisa Thompson, Adrien Vermeiren  
Guest: Barbara Fisher

*Mike Neuts*  
*SEAC Chairperson*

*Dr. Frank Leddy*  
*Board Advisor*

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

1. Prayer
2. Adoption of Agenda

<b>MOTION BY:</b> Annie Sheehan and seconded by Marie Cadotte to adopt the agenda as amended.
<b>CARRIED</b>

3. Review of Minutes from October 16, 2006

<b>MOTION BY:</b> Marie Cadotte and seconded by Annie Sheehan to accept the minutes from the October 16, 2006 SEAC meeting.
<b>CARRIED</b>

**B. ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome M. Fracalanza

Martha informed SEAC members about a newspaper article which appeared in the Toronto Star on November 10, 2006.

**C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

1. Nominations for Membership F. Leddy

SEAC members were reminded about nomination letters from provincial associations. Only four nominations have been received to date. The term for SEAC will be four years. A newspaper advertisement will be appearing in local newspapers in the near future inviting membership on SEAC.

2. Special Education Transformation Document F. Leddy

Additional input was received from SEAC members today. These comments will be added to the summary and the document will be distributed at the next meeting.

3. Parent Evening Sessions F. Leddy

This will be discussed at the next SEAC meeting. SEAC members were asked to bring concrete ideas and suggestions on format and content for these sessions so planning can begin for holding these sessions in the spring.

4. Inclusive Culture Initiative B. Roby

SEAC members were updated on this project. The facilitators from Community Living Ontario have collated the information gathered from the focus groups and the data has been provided to the participating schools. Common areas of strength and areas for improvement identified in the data were highlighted. The participating schools are in the process of formulating goals based upon the feedback. The Special Education Department is discussing expanding this initiative to the elementary schools.

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Presentation: Assistive Technology R. Sanders

Regina presented an overview of the various components contained in the Premier Assistive Technology Suite. The Suite will be available on all school computers and is available for download for all staff and student home computers.

2. Presentation: Supports for Students with Autism L. Tourangeau/R. Zarebski

Renee and Lynn provided an overview of the role of the Itinerant Educational Assistant – Autism and the supports provided in the area of Autism.

3. Education for All F. Leddy

An update on the Education for All project for this year was provided. The project extends the demonstration classrooms from the 2005-2006 project to all elementary schools. Intensive professional development will be provided to the classroom teacher/program resource teacher teams from each school from October to December. The coaching teams will be assisting the school teams from January to March. Classroom visitations and consolidation of the professional development will occur from April to May.

4. Mileage for SEAC Members M. Forster

Mileage claim forms were distributed to SEAC members. SEAC members were requested to submit completed forms prior to the end of December.

5. OPA Initiative M. Forster

An update on the Ontario Psychological Association initiative was provided. The focus will be on early identification and intervention. The wait list for Speech and Language assessments will be addressed and the Speech and Language Pathologists will be providing in school in-service sessions. Additional psychoeducational assessments will also be made available.

6. October 27<sup>th</sup> & November 17<sup>th</sup> Professional Development Days F. Leddy

The Professional Development Day on October 27<sup>th</sup> for Educational Assistants was held jointly with staff from the Lambton-Kent District School Board. The feedback from the day was very positive. The November 17<sup>th</sup> Professional Development day was an in school day focusing on Literacy. This day was led by the principal and involved teaching staff and Educational Assistants.

**E. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD**

Mike Neuts, Marie Cadotte and Barbara Fisher were thanked for their ongoing support for SEAC and Special Education.

**F. INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

**G. QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

1. Are any of our schools involved in the OFIP?  
There are four schools involved.

2. How many participants will the Board be sending to Coaching to Inclusion?  
There are 22 participants attending.
3. How many system IPRCs have been held in the fall of this year?  
No system IPRCs have been held.
4. Clarification on the reduction of Educational Assistant support at St. Patrick Catholic Secondary School for second semester was requested.  
An oversight occurred in the initial allocation of Educational Assistants to the school. This error was identified in the fall and is being corrected in second semester.
5. Who is responsible for handling toileting accidents at school?  
Toileting assistance does not need to be identified in an IEP. Support, in the case of accidents, is determined by the availability of Educational Assistant support.

**H. NEXT MEETING DATE – Monday, January 22, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the CEC in the St. Louis Conference Room.**

Please contact Niki Ritchie at 1-866-336-6139 ext. 388 if you are unable to attend this meeting.

**I. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

1. Inclusive Culture Initiative
2. Review of Special Education Plan (March 2007)
3. Feedback from the Recommendations of the transformations document (January 2007)
4. Report from the Technology Conference (January 2007)
5. Planning – Parent Forum Sessions (January 2007)
6. Success in Secondary School

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

<b>MOTION BY:</b>	Annie Sheehan and seconded by Martha Fracalanza to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.
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**CARRIED**