

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, November 24, 2014, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Catholic Education Centre, Wallaceburg – St. Louis Conference Room

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Community Living Wallaceburg	Derek McGivern
Community Living Chatham-Kent	Derek Jane
Lambton County Developmental Services	Carla Alway
Epilepsy Support Centre	Christine Canniff
VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children	Kathy Arcuri-Arnott
Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County	Kim D'Hooghe
Trustees	Carol Bryden Michelle Parks
Principals Representatives	Anita Cairns Juli Faubert Liz Gibson
Board Advisors	Deb Crawford Lisa Demers Janet Boyle Jennifer Morrow Lisa Thompson-Power

Regrets: Kathy Arcuri-Arnott

Absent:

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

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

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

CARRIED

- C. Review of Minutes from September 15, 2014

MOTION BY Christine Canniff and seconded by Derek McGivern to accept the minutes from the September 15, 2014 SEAC meeting.

CARRIED

- D. Review of Minutes from October 20, 2014

MOTION BY Carla Alway and seconded by Derek Jane to accept the minutes from the October 20, 2014 SEAC meeting.

CARRIED

2. **PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Self-Regulation

Daniella Mancusi

- “Understanding and Supporting Self-Regulation” is the title of the presentation this evening
- This presentation was shared with teaching and support staff at the October 24, 2014 PD day
- The focus of the presentation is for students in the early years
- The power point hard copy was shared with the group this evening. In the package there are resources for independent self-regulation (ie. Lazy 8 Breathing, Calming Sequence Visual, Breathing Triangle)
- How Does Learning Happen? – a Ministry of Education document released in 2014. This encourages staff to focus on student strengths and to look at students as a whole.
- The focus and work on self-regulation fits into the Board’s Strategic Plan.

- B. Mental Health Classroom – Transitions II

Lisa Demers

- A pilot in Sarnia Lambton based on a model from Windsor called Transitions I
- Students involved with CAS, criminal justice, struggling with mental health and have lost engagement in school. The students in the program have complex needs.
- This population of students was not graduating
- A number of community partners are involved.
- The goals of the program are to transition students back to school, addressing mental health needs, developing coping strategies, credit accumulation, social skills development, and re-engagement
- Maximum of 6 students in the classroom currently. There is a formal report process as part of the selection process. There is a selection committee
- Since its inception in February 2014, students are attending and credits are being obtained toward graduation.

3. **ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

- A. Community Living Wallaceburg

Derek McGivern

- No report

- B. Community Living Chatham-Kent

Derek Jane

- No report

- C. Epilepsy Support Centre Christine Canniff
- Since September 2014, four epilepsy, gr. 5 presentations have been done in Sarnia Lambton and three have been done in Chatham Kent. Two teacher in-services have also been done, one in Sarnia Lambton and one in Chatham Kent
 - Family Holiday Party in Chatham Kent on December 21, 2014 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm at T-Bones Restaurant in Chatham
 - Christmas Party in Sarnia Lambton on December 12, 2104 from 5:30 – 8:00 pm at Temple Baptist Church in Sarnia
- 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 Alway
- No report

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- A. There was no unfinished business or business arising from the minutes

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. There was no new business shared this evening

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Geneva Centre for Autism Symposium Jennifer Morrow
- Geneva hosted this international conference on Autism bringing together parents, professionals, educators and researchers.
 - Ten staff from SCCDSB attended the 3 day conference in Toronto
 - Internationally known speakers, including Temple Grandin and her mother, Eustacia Cutler, presented as key notes and break out session speakers
 - The TLLP from 2013-14, led by Nicole Leger, teacher of the Autism Classroom, was shared at the conference. It was very well received by many, including Temple Grandin. Temple spoke about the TLLP during her session, citing the importance of using technology with students with ASD, but not replacing teachers with technology
- B. LDAO Resources Lisa Thompson Power & Janet Boyle
- The 1st Annual Educators’ Institute on Demystifying Learning Disabilities in the Classroom was held in London, ON.
 - The conference provides a bilingual forum for educators, researchers, policy makers, administrators, and practitioners to discuss practical information on effective assessment and instructional strategies, assistive technology, research, and developments in teaching students with learning disabilities
 - With the support of the Ministry of Education’s Special Education Policy and Programs Branch, the LDAO has developed a bilingual resource designed to provide Ontario educators with meaningful information to help support students with learning disabilities, known as LD@School
 - The website features evidence-based practices and strategies that can be put directly to use in the classroom. It also includes other resources and professional development materials such as videos,, podcasts, webinars, blogs, articles, and student success stories
 - The website has been shared with all PRTs and with Secondary Department Heads

C. Autism Transitional Classroom Audit

Lisa Demers

- An audit occurs every 3 – 4 years for section 23 programs
- Ministry was very impressed with the program.
- Evidence regarding assessment, evaluation and transitions was provided
- Ministry didn't provide recommendations for improvements. Ministry staff encouraged the team to share their practices provincially.

D. FSL for All

Lisa Thompson Power

- FSL for All consultation session for our region was held on Nov. 20, 2014. The purpose of the session was to obtain feedback and input on the draft document FSL for All, A Practical Guide to Support the Inclusion of Students with Special Education Needs in French as a Second Language Programs in Ontario
- FSL includes core French programs, French immersion programs, and all other French programs offered in Ontario schools

E. Noelle's Gift

Lisa Demers

- This charitable fund was established in memory of Noelle Paquette, a former Kindergarten teacher in our board.
- The money is shared among both boards to support students who are in need
- School principals make an application to access Noelle's gift when a child is in need
- There are a number of students with special education needs who benefit from Noelle's Gift

F. Special Education Report

Lisa Demers

- Section 9.0 was reviewed today to show the connections in our practice related to the Special Ed report
- Range of Services in section 9.2 – the self-regulation presentation and the mental health classroom presentations from this evening fit into the diagram representing our range of services and tiered supports.

7. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

The Principal and Vice Principal moves were a topic of discussion at the board level since the last meeting.

- Terri Nelson Johnson spoke at both UCC and St. Pats. He was very well received by good sized crowds at both locations. His message was putting "joy" in your life and in your family
- Supporting Muskoka Woods Leadership Camp is up and coming within the board. A number of retired staff, support the fund raisers. Sarnia Lambton Christmas Dinner Dance is on December 5, 2014. In Chatham Kent, there is a 5 day celebration fund raiser at the Armories.
- The new board takes over on December 2, 2014.

8. QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

A.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE: January 19, 2015 at 7:00pm.

10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

A.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Derek McGivern and seconded by Derek Jane to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 pm.

CARRIED