

# ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, June 15, 2015 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	Tabitha Vercillo
VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children	Kathy Arcuri-Arnott
Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County	Kim D'Hooghe
Trustee	Michelle Parks John Van Heck
Principals Representatives	Anita Cairns Juli Faubert Liz Gibson
Board Advisors	Deb Crawford Brendan Deery Christine Preece Janet Boyle Jennifer Morrow Lisa Thompson-Power

Regrets: Kathy Arcuri-Arnott, Derek McGivern, Michelle Parks

Absent: Kim D'Hooghe, Anita Cairns, Juli Faubert

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

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

**MOTION BY** Derek Jane and seconded by Carla Alway to adopt the agenda.

**CARRIED**

- C. Review of Minutes from April 20, 2015

**MOTION BY** Carla Alway and seconded by Derek Jane to accept the minutes from the April 20, 2015 SEAC meeting.

**CARRIED**

2. **PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Budget – Special Education

Amy Janssens

- Amy Janssens presented a report of the proposed budget for 2015-2016. The budget will be presented to the Trustees at the Board Meeting on June 23, 2015.

- B. Responding to the IEP Using the Framework for Effective Instruction in Mathematics Paul Cogghe

- Paul Cogghe, Grade 7/8 Numeracy Support Special Assignment Teacher, Catholic Curriculum worked collaboratively with members of the Special Education Team to develop a presentation for the NTIP teachers
- Our core beliefs: All students can learn; Our instruction is driven by student thinking; We want students to show perseverance and grit
- These core beliefs, used in conjunction with the three areas of the framework, bring us toward our target of conceptual understanding and long term success in Mathematics
- Comprehensive Framework: Construction of Knowledge, Instructional Strategies, Responsive Teaching
- Teachers should make purposeful decisions when choosing working groups (e.g. random selection, ability grouping). Teachers should differentiate as much as possible so that all students can be successful.
- Students with an IEP may require additional accommodations or modifications. Teachers use strategies to address strengths and deficits in Verbal Comprehension, Perceptual Reasoning, Working Memory and Processing Speed.
- Key to Success: Know your students!; Remain asset based and differentiate

2. **ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

- A. Community Living Wallaceburg

Derek McGivern

- Not Present

- 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

- Not Present

- E. Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County Kim D’Hooghe
- Not Present
- F. Lambton County Developmental Services Carla Alway
- The annual general meeting is on June 22, 2015. This is the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of LCDS.

### **3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

A.

### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. The SSCDSB SEAC received an award for exceptional service. This award was presented at the SEAC Provincial Conference on May 2<sup>nd</sup> in Toronto.

### **5. INFORMATION ITEMS**

EA June PD Day

Janet Boyle

- The theme of the day was “Expanding Our Toolkit”. The morning keynote was Erin Watkins, with the Attachment, Consultation and Education Service at CPRI. Erin’s topic was “Attachment, Being With and Connection”. The Circle of Security model was introduced.
- EAs attended workshops of their choice during the afternoon session:
- Collaborative and Proactive Solutions (formerly called Collaborative Problem Solving) - Heather Carron-Doyle and Sara Vadovik (Behaviour Team); Structured Learning as well as a Structured Learning Make and Take session – Jennifer Morrow, Lynn Tourangeau, Jill DeMaeyer (District Autism Team); Boardmaker Studio Basics and Advanced sessions – Jan Lemak, SEA Trainer; Google Read and Write - Joan Martell, Assistive Technology Teacher; Using Universal Supports – Jill DeMaeyer, ABA Specialist; “How Does Learning Happen?” - Daniella Mancusi, Behaviour Team; Visual Strategies for Literacy Skill Development (“Match, Select, Name” Method) - Shawn Christensen and Sandra Wintjes, SLP
- Overall, the feedback was very positive. The EAs appreciated the very practical workshop sessions and having the opportunity for hands-on learning.

Accessibility Report

Janet Boyle

- The report for the 13th Annual Accessibility Plan will be made public on the Board website in coming weeks. The plan, prepared by the Accessibility Working Group of the SCCDSB describes the measures that the SCCDSB has taken in the past and the measures that the SCCDSB plans to take during the year (2015-2016) to identify, remove and prevent barriers for people with disabilities. The Accessibility Committee has identified 5 key barriers, including attitudinal; architectural and physical; technological; information or communication; policies and practices.
- A student forum was held on March 12, 2015 for students from each school across the system to provide input into the development of the plan. The guest speaker was D.J. Cunningham, CEO of LEARNstyle, a company which seeks to empower all types of learners and to improve the educational opportunities through the use of technology.

Update PRT In-service Day

Lisa Thompson-Power

- The theme of the May PRT meeting was “Technology in the Classroom”. This was in response to the feedback from previous meetings, where the PRTs had requested additional training with technology. They were invited to Bring their Own Device for the day’s activities. The Special

Education and IT Departments presented information on the process for the summer service of SEA equipment. Representatives from Amethyst Provincial School did a presentation on Technology in the Classroom, outlining how they support their students using technology. As well as sharing resources, tips for using the Smartboard, Dragon, Kurzweil and iPad apps were also provided. The Amethyst application process was also reviewed. Paul Cogghe also continued the “Math Fun” session from the previous PRT meeting. Feedback for the day was very positive.

Special Education Report

Brendan Deery

- Each Board is required to maintain a Special Education Plan, to review it annually and make revisions to meet the current needs of its exceptional students, and to submit any amendment(s) to the Ministry for review.
- Areas with amendments for the upcoming school year include: Section 2.1: General Model for Special Education (Board’s Mission Statement); Section 5.0: Composition of IPRC Committees; Section 6.0: Educational and Other Assessments; Section 8: Categories and Definitions of Exceptionalities; Section 10: Individual Education Plans; Section 11: Provincial and Demonstration Schools; Section 12: Special Education Staff Appendix 6, 7; Section 13: Staff Development – Overall Goal; Section 17: Board’s Education Advisory Committee, Meeting Times and Locations; Section 18: Transition Planning and Co-ordination of Services with Other Ministries or Agencies.
- Motion to accept the amendments to the 2014-2015 Special Education Report was made by Derek Jane and seconded by Carla Always.
- The report will be available on the Board website.

**6. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD**

- A. The Board has been working through the development of the budget. Budget workshops have been held with the Trustees. The budget will be presented at the Board Meeting on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**7. QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- A.

**8. NEXT MEETING DATE:     September 21, 2015 at 7:00pm.**

**9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

- A.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

<p><b>MOTION BY</b> Carla Alway and seconded by Tabitha Vercillo to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p>
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