

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

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

Catholic Education Centre, Wallaceburg – Ursuline Board Room

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Community Living Wallaceburg	Derek McGivern
Community Living Chatham-Kent	Derek Jane
Epilepsy Support Centre	Tabitha Vercillo & Melissa Perry
VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children	Kathy Arcuri-Arnott
Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County	Kim D’Hooghe
Lambton County Developmental Services	Carla Alway
Learning Disabilities Association – Chatham Kent	Clare Latimer
Trustee	Michelle Parks Brenda Rumble
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: Deb Crawford, Michelle Parks, Derek McGivern, Kathy Arcuri-Arnott, Kim D’Hooghe

Absent: Brenda Rumble, Clare Latimer, Melissa Perry, Cynthia Blair, Stacy Shepley

Brenda Rumble
SEAC Chairperson

Deb Crawford
Board Advisor

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 February 29, 2016

MOTION BY Tabitha Vercillo and seconded by Derek Jane to accept the minutes from the February 29, 2016 SEAC meeting.

CARRIED

2. **PRESENTATIONS**

- A. SnapVerter 7 Read and Write

Joan Martell

- Read and Write is a program that helps students read what is on the computer screen. Students hear words, passages and/or whole documents read to them while being highlighted. The program helps students gain confidence with reading, writing, studying and researching.
- What's new: word prediction, hover speech, picture dictionary, play, pause, stop, fact finder, speech to text, translator tool, highlighter tools, gear/settings, screen shot reader
- Today Joan gave committee members an opportunity to use Chrome books to experience what the students see and do with Read and Write for Google Chrome.
- Joan discussed the process used to access and use Snapverter, She pointed out that the program allows the user to take a picture of a document that is not available electronically, converted the document to a pdf, uploaded it to a google doc and share it with students.
- Texthelp.com gives video instructions on how to use the above.

3. **ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

- A. Community Living Wallaceburg

Derek McGivern

- No Report

- B. Community Living Chatham-Kent

Derek Jane

- No Report

- C. Epilepsy Support Centre

Tabitha Vercillo & Meilssa Perry

- 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 Alway

- No Report

- No Report

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

A. N/A

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. N/A

6. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

A. School Climate Surveys

Christine Preece

- We are encouraging parents in all school communities to complete the Parent School Climate Survey
- There are Parent, Staff and Student school surveys that can be found on the Board web site

B. PRT In-Servicing Update

Lisa Thompson-Power

- March 30, 2016 – consultants met with PRTs in small cluster groups where the focus was Collaborative & Proactive Solutions (CPS). A member from the Behaviour Support Team attended each meeting to help provide training on the ALSUP (Assessment of Lagging Skills and Unsolved Problems) to the PRTs.
- The same agenda was followed for each meeting. Hints and tips for using the ALSUP were shared and discussed.
- Each PRT had the opportunity to share student observations and then the group collaborated on properly working through an ALSUP. The role of facilitator was modeled for each ALSUP discussion until the PRT was comfortable with the types of questions, sort of focus and the specific information needed in order to obtain the necessary information around lagging skills and unsolved problems.
- The take away message to all PRTs was to return to school, choose a different student with whom to do CPS, collaborate with the classroom teacher, support staff if applicable and the principal/vice principal. Work towards facilitating an ALSUP discussion with the group, and bring the completed ALSUP to the next PRT cluster meeting on May 18, 2016 where training on next steps will be provided.

C. Update of Spring Phonological Screening

Janet Boyle

- Speech Pathologists screened all SK students in all schools in September and October 2015. Based on results, the PRTs will assist in the April cycle by administering the screening to the SK students who were deemed lower risk. The SLPs will screen the higher risk students due to the fact they are often referred to the SLP as a next step. The SLP having done the screening, then has an awareness of the student when they receive the referral.
- Screening scores from the Fall and the Spring are recorded on the same sheet for comparison purposes.
- Short term outcomes of the screening are: an indication of students who are at risk, a predictor of future literacy skill and a tool through which results can be used to drive classroom instruction and determine specific goals for struggling students.

D. Changes to IBI

Sara Vadovic

- The Ministry recently announced changes to supports and services for Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) and Intensive Behavioural Intervention (IBI) for students with autism.
- It has been determined that the optimal time for intervention is between the ages of 2 and 4 years. Based on this new guideline, children on the waitlist for ABA/IBI supports and services, who are 5 years of age and over, will be off the waitlist as of May 2016.
- There is an option whereby the family can receive funds (@ \$8000) and manage the treatment and therapy for their child(ren) on their own. This being the case, they are not eligible for any other services from the Ministry.

E. Mental Well Being Update

Christine Preece

- The Student Wellbeing and Support Team is involved in a pilot project with School Mental Health Assist; the pilot is called Brief Intervention Services for School Clinicians (BRISC). It is based on best evidence and is very similar to the already developed well-being plans being used by the team
- Seven modules have been developed for staff to view. The modules are intended to educate staff about the following topics: FASD, anxiety, mood disorder, personal resiliency, mentally healthy schools, ADHD and resiliency/grit/mindset.
- Holy Trinity School is participating in a national pilot project and using the curriculum called AT MY BEST. This curriculum aims to address mental wellness, physical activity and nutrition. It is the intent to roll this curriculum out in our system, if successful.

F. Special Education Report

Brendan Deery

- We have been working together on the Special Education Report throughout the year.
- At the May SEAC meeting we will share the updated report with changes made for this school year.

7. **REPORTS FROM THE BOARD**

A. N/A

8. **QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

A. N/A

9. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** May 16, 2016 at 7:00pm.

10. **AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

A. N/A

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY Derek Jane and seconded by Carla Alway to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 pm.

CARRIED