

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, October 17, 2016 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
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
Autism Ontario – Chatham-Kent Chapter	Tracey Haddy
Trustees	Brenda Rumble Michelle Parks
Principal Representatives	Cynthia Blair Colleen Cogghe Juli Faubert Ed Freeburn Stacy Shepley
Board Advisors	Deb Crawford Brendan Deery Janet Boyle Chris Preece Lisa Thompson-Power Sara Vadovic

Regrets: Carla Alway, Don Arnott, Michelle Parks, Melissa Perry, Lisa Thompson-Power

Absent: Derek McGivern, Julie Faubert, Ed Freeburn

Brenda Rumble
SEAC Chairperson

Deb Crawford
Board Advisor

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Addition to Agenda: Information Items D. - Teen Transition Fair – Sara Vadovic
MOTION BY Clare Latimer and seconded by Derek Jane to adopt the agenda.

CARRIED

- C. Review of Minutes from September 19, 2016

MOTION BY Kim D’Hooghe and seconded by Tabitha Vercillo to accept the minutes from the September 19, 2016 SEAC meeting

CARRIED

2. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Learning Disabilities of Chatham/Kent (LDAO) Clare Latimer

- Presentation by Heather Demers, CYW and Program Facilitator from Chatham-Kent
- The Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent is a non-profit charitable organization; annual membership available to the public
- Discussed types of learning disabilities; common signs of learning disabilities; ADHD and learning disabilities; secrets of success
- Statistics were shared: Learning disabilities affect 10% of the population; over 82 000 children identified in Ontario schools with learning disabilities
- October is Learning Disabilities Awareness Month
- Services Offered: 1:1 tutoring; assistive technology training (currently being restructured); social skills; Friends for Life; SOAR (Secondary School Preparation Course); resource library; guest presenters; awareness campaigns; advocacy support
- The Fall 2016 Newsletter as well as a brochure outlining 2016-2017 After School Programs were distributed to the SEAC members
- Important to increase the awareness of the services available through the LDAO – CK amongst families, students and school staff

- B. Joint Protocol for Student Achievement Brendan Deery

- The Joint Protocol for Student Achievement (JPSA) is intended to facilitate collaboration between partnering Children’s Aid Society (CAS) and school boards in their efforts to enable Kindergarten to Grade 12 students who are in the care of, or receiving services from a CAS to benefit from the learning opportunities and supports available in schools and to achieve academic success.
- Parties Involved: Sarnia-Lambton Children’s Aid Society; Chatham-Kent Children’s Services; St. Clair Catholic District School Board; Lambton Kent District School Board; Conseil Scolaire Catholique Providence; Conseil Scolaire Viamonde
- The development and implementation of this Joint Protocol for Student Achievement will be done in three (3) phases:
Phase I September 2016 – June 2017 Children and youth in the care of CAS
Phase II September 2017 - June 2018 Children in Kinship Service but not in the care of CAS
Phase III September 2018 – June 2019 Children and youth receiving services from CAS
- Focus of the parties: early intervention; keeping children and youth safe; maximize coordination of students’ educational supports; work with the community to improve educational outcomes
- Realizing Educational Achievements for Children (REACH Team) is intended to be a proactive and preventative measure to support students before greater needs arise, as well

as support students who may be experiencing academic challenges. (Must be offered but does not have to be accepted.)

- C. Initial Results of School Climate Survey Chris Preece
- Administered for 6 weeks in April/May 2016; surveys for students, staff and parents
 - 686 parent responses; 441 staff responses; 2596 students (Grade 4-8); 1325 (Grade 9-12)
 - Questions related to bullying, sense of belonging, stress, mental well-being, health, accessibility, faith
 - 87 reports have been produced
 - Survey indicated top 3 stressors impacting elementary students well-being: bullying; people hurting others; being stressed out
 - Survey indicated top 3 issues for secondary students' were feeling stressed out; pressure to do well at school; lack of respect for each other
 - Parents felt bullying, friendships/relationships, and feeling scared, nervous or afraid were the 3 main issues
 - Staff felt lack of respect for each other, behaviours in classrooms and social media issues were the 3 main concerns
 - Next Steps: Schools asked to develop an overall goal for well-being for their School Improvement Plan (SIP) based on the results of the survey and to develop a Healthy and Safe Schools Action Plan to align with their SIP goal

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
- Alternative Therapies Information Night: Thursday, October 20 6:00 p.m.; free session
 - Topics include: medical marijuana, ketogenic diet, surgery pathways
- 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
- No report
- G. Learning Disabilities Association – Chatham Kent Clare Latimer
- No report
- H. Autism Ontario – Chatham-Kent Chapter Tracey Haddy
- Parent discussion groups meet once per month at King George Public School, Chatham
 - "Yoga for All" for children and parents; Wallaceburg Wellness Centre; Friday night (6 weeks)

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

- A. N/A

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. N/A

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. EA PD Day – October 28, 2016

Brendan Deery

- EAs who have not previously been trained and all ECEs will receive Behaviour Management System (BMS) training
- All other EAs will receive a half day training in Collaborative and Proactive Solutions (CPS) and a half day working on the Geneva Centre for Autism “Introduction to Autism” Free Online Series for Educators

B. New Autism Specialist Position

Brendan Deery

- Ministry of Education is providing direct funding to school boards to strengthen in-school Autism supports to help children transition to and continue in school full-time
- SCCDSB will be hiring a second ABA Specialist; one will provide services to schools in Sarnia-Lambton and the other in Chatham-Kent
- ABA Specialist will be working with children transitioning from IBI, students who have previously transitioned, will provide staff training, etc.

C. Special Education Report

Brendan Deery

- Review of Section 8: Categories and Definitions of Exceptionalities

D. Teen Transition Fair

Sarah Vadovic

- JumpStart Lambton Kent Teen Transition Committee – working with families with children with developmental disabilities; joint venture with the LKDSB
- 2016 Transition Fair - Life After High School For Teens with Special Needs
- October 25th in Chatham-Kent (Chatham-Kent Secondary School, Chatham); October 26th in Sarnia-Lambton (Alexander Mackenzie Secondary School, Sarnia)
- Various community agencies provide information to families on topics such as education, employment, recreation, housing, social opportunities, community programs, respite, support groups

7. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

A. Positive enrollment in the French Immersion program in Wallaceburg

B. The Board of Trustees voted to begin a Pupil Accommodation Review of the Chatham Catholic elementary schools.

8. QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

A. N/A

9. NEXT MEETING DATE: November 21, 2016 at 7:00pm.

10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

A. Organization Report: Community Living: Wallaceburg

11. ADJOURNMENT

<p>MOTION BY Clare Latimer and seconded by Tracey Haddy to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
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*Brenda Rumble
SEAC Chairperson*

*Deb Crawford
Board Advisor*