

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, May 15, 2017 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 Southwestern Ontario	Tabitha Cook
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 Chris Preece Lisa Thompson-Power Sara Vadovic

Regrets: Cynthia Blair, Tracey Haddy, Tabitha Cook, Derek Jane, Melissa Perry, Juli Faubert,
Janet Boyle

Absent:

Brenda Rumble
SEAC Chairperson

Deb Crawford
Board Advisor

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

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

CARRIED

- C. Review of Minutes from April 10, 2017

MOTION BY Kathy Arcuri-Arnott and seconded by Derek McGivern to accept the minutes from the April 10, 2017 SEAC meeting.

CARRIED

2. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Budget

Amy Janssens, Executive Superintendent
– Corporate Services & Treasurer

- Amy shared the budget specific to Special Education for 2017-18
- Amy shared a power point highlighting the Budget Development Priorities, Budget Development Process that begins in February, Budget Development Risks, Budget Assumptions, Projected Enrolment, Enrolment Growth/Decline (ADE), Grants for Student Needs (GSN), and Special Education and the Budget Development Current Status
- Amy reported the board has met the necessary compliance for the Ministry of Education again this year
- Amy provided and explained a hand out highlighting the money to be spent on Special Education in the Board. The hand out highlights both revenues and expenses. This is the first year in many where the Special Education envelope has been balanced. In the past, there has been a deficit.
- Budget approval is scheduled for June 20th 2017
- Amy is available if there are questions regarding the Special Education budget for 2017-18

- B. Community Integration through Co-operative Education Lambton College

Tracy Parnham

- Tracy is a Learning Specialist at Lambton College in Sarnia
- Tracy shared the most recent presentation used to recruit candidates to the C.I.C.E. program
- C.I.C.E. is a modified program designed for individuals with learning challenges such as an Intellectual Disability, a Developmental Disability, a Brain Injury, a Learning Disability, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Mental Health issues, etc.
- The program accepts 40 students, have 20+ staff, and students study at a modified level
- Application process: OCAS application by February 1st. There are 17 similar programs across the province. Apply at www.ontariocolleges.ca Applicants must: want a Post Secondary education, have moderate to significant learning challenges, and require modifications and accommodations to their program. Applicants must meet with the accessibility centre before modifications and accommodations can be implemented.
- Admission requirements: an advocate reference and an interview (“conversation”) with C.I.C.E. team members
- What the 2 years look like: complete program map over four semesters, support from the learning specialist, field placement (area of concentration) and graduation.
- Successful students graduate with Ontario College Certificate in C.I.C.E. *not* with a certificate or a diploma from an “area of concentration”

- Tracy shared success stories of graduates from the program and she shared a video made by one their graduates who described the C.I.C.E. program
- Best Buddies – the only chapter in Canada that runs by hosting fun events allowing students to meet. They do not “match” students

3. ASSOCIATION REPORTS

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|---|---------------------|
| A. Community Living Wallaceburg | Derek McGivern |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A | |
| B. Community Living Chatham-Kent | Derek Jane |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A | |
| C. Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario | Tabitha Cook |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A | |
| D. VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children | Kathy Arcuri-Arnott |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A | |
| E. Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County | Kim D’Hooghe |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A | |
| F. Lambton County Developmental Services | Carla Alway |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A | |
| G. Learning Disabilities Association – Chatham Kent | Clare Latimer |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A hand out was attached to our minutes outlining summer programming for 2017 • Scholarships and bursary deadline is June 16 2017 • Pay attention to SOAR program (Secondary School Preparation Course for grades 7-9). It is underutilized. If you have suggestions for improvement, please let them know | |
| H. Autism Ontario – Chatham-Kent Chapter | Tracey Haddy |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A | |

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- A. N/A

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. N/A

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Board Accessibility Report Deb Crawford
- The Accessibility Report is completed annually and is shared with SEAC
 - Deb walked the committee through the report which is available on the Board website
 - Sara Vadovic shared information about the Student Forum held at St. Patrick's Catholic Secondary School
- B. EA PD Day – April 28, 2017 Lisa Thompson-Power
- Sarnia/St. Patrick's site – Renee Ellis, Occupational Therapist from CPRI presented “Sensory Challenges and Supports for Students”
 - The presentation covered the difficulties our students may have with sensory processing, how this may affect their emotional, behavioural and learning abilities and some strategies to support them in the classroom
 - Both sensory processing and sensory systems were discussed. Specific strategies and supports for students with sensory modulation difficulties in each sensory system were addressed
 - Chatham/UCC site – Erin Watkins, Child and Youth Worker from CPRI presented “Looking for Connection: A User-Friendly Framework to Promote Secure Attachment”
 - The presentation provided a general overview of attachment theory and research findings to help take the guess work out of knowing what our students need. An in-depth explanation of the “Circle of Security” was presented in relation to the attachment theory
 - Information on trauma and the effects trauma can have on our students was also shared in relation to the attachment theory. Examples of what this may look like in our school environment were provided
 - At both sites, the afternoon was spent completing the Geneva Centre Free On-Line Series on “Introduction to Autism”. Educational Assistants worked on completing the 12 modules toward their certificate. Time was allotted on designated PD days to work on 3 modules per PD session toward the completion of the 12 modules. By the end of the 2016-17 school year, all EAs will submit the certificate of completion to the Principal of Education.
- C. Ontario School Based Mental Health Conference Sara Vadovic
- Seven school board staff attended the 3 day conference where several professional speakers/educators shared information on a variety of topics
 - The following speakers/educators spoke on the following topics:
 - Dr. Ross Greene - Collaborative & Proactive Solutions: Fostering the More Positive Side of Human Nature
 - Lisa Ferentz - The Impact of Trauma on Children
 - Lynn Lyons - Anxious Kids, Anxious Families

- Steven G. Feifer - the Neuropsychology of Emotional Disorders: A Framework for Effective Interventions
- Dr. Lynn Miller - Metal Health Matters: Psychological Issues & Their Effect on Children's Lives
- Judy Willis - Neurological Strategies for Building Students' Emotional Self-Management, Motivation, Perseverance and Their Construction of Neural Networks of Long-Term Concept Memory

D. Special Education Report

Brendan Deery

- The information has been shared with SEAC at previous meetings, therefore no additional information was shared

7. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

- A. Recognition was made toward the great work on the budget showing no deficit in Special Education
- B. Two new student trustees have been elected who will start their position in September 2017

8. QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

5. NEXT MEETING DATE: June 12, 2017 at 7:00pm.

9.

10. PRESENTATIONS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

June 12, 2017 - Lambton County Developmental Services

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Derek McGivern and seconded by Kathy Arcuri-Arnott to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

CARRIED