

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, April 19, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

“Teams” virtual meeting

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Autism Ontario – Chatham-Kent Chapter

Tracey Haddy

Children’s Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent

Jessica Constancio

Community Living Chatham-Kent

Steve Stokley

Community Living Sarnia-Lambton

Brenda Roby

Community Living Wallaceburg

Ryan Allaer / Wendy Smith

Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County

Kim D’Hooghe

Wellness & Emotional Support For Youth Online

Michelle Parks

Trustee

Carol Bryden
Jennifer McCann

Principal Representatives

Frank Torti
Lisa Walker

Board Advisors

Lisa Demers
Jennifer Morrow
Janet Boyle
Chris Preece
Lisa Thompson-Power
Michelle Toutant

Guests: Michael Jacques, Marcel Jacques, Sheila McLaren, Hilary Grieve

Regrets: Kim D’Hooghe

Absent: Jessica Constanico, Michelle Parks

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

MOTION BY Brenda Roby and seconded by Jennifer McCann to adopt the SEAC Agenda of April 19, 2021 **CARRIED**

- C. Review of SEAC Minutes from March 22, 2021

MOTION BY Brenda Roby and seconded by Jennifer McCann to accept the minutes from the March 22, 2021, SEAC meeting. **CARRIED**

2. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Can't Read, Can't Write, Here's My Book Michael Jacques
 - Michael is a successful high school graduate, public speaker, Special Olympic Athlete and an 11 year employee at Sobeys Grocery Store in Fonthill
 - Michael is a public speaker and activist, who in 2018 wrote and self-published 'Can't Read, Can't Write, Here's My Book' using speech-to-text technology. In 2020 he released a children's book that he co-authored with Heather Gale titled, 'I Belong: Can I Play?'
 - At a young age, Michael was diagnosed with autism and an intellectual disability- Michael is always looking for ways to educate people on diversity, inclusion, equity and ways to embrace and celebrate differences
 - Michael volunteers for SEAC and MACSE (provincial level)- he was appointed by the Minister of Education for a 3 year term- he represents individuals with multiple disabilities and advises the Minister of Education on matters related to Special Education
 - Michael sits on the board for Community Living Welland-Pelham and has been elected Vice President for the Board of Directors with Community Living Ontario
 - Michael was chosen as Fonthill's 2019 Citizen of the Year
 - As a young leader and public speaker, Michael has received international recognition on the Queen's Commonwealth Trust
 - Michael stresses the importance of having a strong voice and focusing on his strengths as keys to his success
 - Michael stresses the importance of friendships and being recognized as a member of the society

3. ASSOCIATION REPORTS

- A. Autism Ontario – Chatham-Kent Chapter Tracey Haddy
 - N/A
- B. Children's Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent Jessica Constancio
 - N/A
- C. Community Living Chatham-Kent Steve Stokley
 - N/A
- D. Community Living Sarnia-Lambton Brenda Roby
 - N/A
- E. Community Living Wallaceburg Ryan Allaer / Wendy Smith
 - N/A
- F. Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County Kim D'Hooghe
 - N/A

- N/A

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

N/A

5. NEW BUSINESS

N/A

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Mental Health and Wellbeing Update

Chris Preece

- Dan Edwards has completed Wellbeing and Resilience presentations with the elementary schools
- The School Climate Survey has been sent out (parents, staff, students)- to gather information about Mental Health, Wellbeing, Equity, Anti-Bullying and Belonging- closes May 28, 2021
- Faith and Wellness- Faith and Wellbeing everyday for mental health- a portal of resources for staff
- Coffee With a Friend - Margaret Palmer and Drew Bowman meet with staff every Wednesday to gather in prayer and faith
- Mental Health and Catholic Education Week- Dr Amanda Stamec & Dr Lauren McNamara - speaking on how movement and social connection impacts positively on our mental health
- Nutrition Project- focus on students in virtual schools-will be delivering 200 food boxes in May
- Faith and Wellbeing Passport- will be sent out during Education Week and Mental Health Week May 3-7th

B. Parent Presentation (IEP/IPRC)

Janet Boyle

- 17 families registered and were very engaged virtually in the IEP/IPRC Parent Information session hosted by Pathways Health Centre for Children on March 31, 2021
- Joint presentation with our coterminous Board
- Goal of the Evening: Parents/Guardians to gain an understanding of the IEP/IPRC process and their potential involvement in both
- Janet's focus was on the Role of the Parent/Guardian and the importance of ongoing consultation with families in the development of their child's IEP as well as their child's participation in their own IEP development
- The highlights of the presentation included: What is an IEP?; Who develops a student's IEP?; Key Components – Assessment Data; Strengths and Needs; Special Education Program – the difference between Accommodations / Modifications / Alternative Programs was outlined; the Transition Plan
- The second part of the evening involved a presentation on the IPRC process by our colleague from the LKDSB, Heather Touzin, Special Education Coordinator
- The highlights of the presentation included: What is an Identification, Placement, Review Committee (IPRC)?; Role of the IPRC; IPRC Structures – New Identification, Change in Identification, Annual Reviews; as well, Categories and Definitions of Exceptionalities as outlined by the Ministry; IPRC Process and Parent Involvement

C. Personal Care Protocol Updates

Jen Morrow

- The Personal Care Protocol has been recently updated to reflect the SCCDSB Mission Statement and Strategic Plan
- Personal Care Protocol Plan is completed for students from JK to grade 12 who require a significant level of personal care based on their unique needs
- The school team in consultation with families and agencies develop the student's Personal Care Plan
- Want to make sure that student dignity is maintained and that student is comfortable during the process

D. Classroom Inclusion AQ Course:

Lisa Demers

- The Ontario College of Teachers is asking for input for the new Inclusive Classroom AQ course
- The College will be using the virtual platform *Thoughtexchange* to gather information
- Lisa Demers and Morgan Brown will share the survey with members of SEAC

7. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

- On April 12, 2021 the Government announced a pivot from in person to online-for the April 19, 2021 return to school
- Funding has been provided from Federal Government to upgrade windows, air conditioning, ventilation in some of our schools
- The SCCDSB signed a contract with the Occasional Teachers
- Sacred Heart Port Lambton will be undergoing an expansion of classrooms and the child care facility- the school enrollment has increased and the community is thriving
- 2 new Student Trustees have been appointed- Grace McCormack- St Patrick's and Owen Mallott- Bennett Ursuline College
- Deb Crawford will be retiring at the end of September 2021; Nancy Bechard will be retiring at the end of April 2021

8. QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- N/A

9. PRESENTATIONS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- N/A

10. FUTURE MEETING DATE

May 17, 2021
June 14, 2021

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Brenda Roby and seconded by Jennifer McCann to adjourn the SEAC Meeting at 7:28 p.m.

CARRIED