

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING



Date: Monday, September 20, 2021 – 5:30 P.M.

Via: Teams Meeting

Please contact Kim Wells at 1-866-336-6139 ext. 10227 if you are unable to attend this meeting.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Autism Ontario – Chatham-Kent Chapter	Tracey Haddy
Children’s Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent	TBD
Community Living Chatham-Kent	Steve Stokley
Community Living Sarnia-Lambton	Rachel Veilleux / 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
Trustees	Carol Bryden Jennifer McCann
Principal Representatives	Frank Torti Lisa Walker
Board Advisors	Lisa Demers Jennifer Morrow Terri Rawlings Chris Preece Lisa Thompson-Power Hollie Sparling
Guests	Laura Callaghan
Regrets	Brenda Roby Tracey Haddy Lisa Demers Ryan Allaer

Absent

Rachel Veilleux
Wendy Smith
Kim D'Hooghe
Michelle Parks

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Welcome & Opening Prayer

Due to the lack of quorum, no formal motions were made at this SEAC meeting.

B. Adoption of SEAC Agenda - September 20, 2021

MOTION BY

C. Review of SEAC Minutes – June 14, 2021

MOTION BY

2. PRESENTATIONS

A. Review the rules and regulations of SEAC

Jen Morrow

- This review is an orientation for new members and review for current members.
- Jen shared a slide deck which reviewed the following information: Membership, Orientation and Training, Rules and Procedures for SEAC, and Primary Roles of a SEAC representative.

B. Review the department objectives

Jen Morrow

- Jen shared the objectives for the Special Education department for 2021-2022 which are:
 - Service delivery model for the Transition Classrooms
 - To implement the SEAit (Special Education Amount) tracking tool
 - To strengthen processes for student support and IEP development/review
 - To continue to review the model of the Autism Transition Classroom (ATC)
 - To continue to update the Special Education web page and resources
 - To continue to collaborate with the Curriculum department with a focus on: ELL Resources/Support, Know Thy Learner, and Math Pilot to support early intervention in Math for students with special education needs in grades 4 - 6.

C. Review the PRT Roles and Responsibilities

Jen Morrow

- The document has not changed significantly from last year except for the addition of the new Board logo and pertinent dates for this year.
- Ministry processes as well as student support responsibilities that remain in place are:
 - Individual Education Plan

- IPRC/Annual Review process
- Individualized programming
- Consultation/Meetings
- In-School assessments
- Referrals to board support services/outside agencies
- Direct service with students
- Personal care plans
- SEA equipment

3. ASSOCIATION REPORTS

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| A. Autism Ontario – Chatham-Kent Chapter | Tracey Haddy |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A | |
| B. Children’s Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent | TBD |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A | |
| C. Community Living Chatham-Kent | Steve Stokley |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The summer program ran with 12 students participating. The focus was on a blend of employment and recreation. • The rules from the Ministry continue to change for the residential programs due to COVID. • The Transitional youth program called “Making it Happen” has 40 people participating. This summer the group did things outside, due to COVID, in order to continue to make contact. | |
| D. Community Living Sarnia-Lambton | Rachel Veilleux / Brenda Roby |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A | |
| E. Community Living Wallaceburg | Ryan Allaer / Wendy Smith |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A | |
| F. Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County | Kim D’Hooghe |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A | |
| G. Wellness & Emotional Support for Youth Online | Michelle Parks |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A | |

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5. NEW BUSINESS

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Mental Health Work

Chris Preece

- In our summer work, there were 7 Social Workers and 4 Child and Youth workers who supported summer learning with Special Education, Student Success and Curriculum where they focused on activities that helped students learn about self awareness, body awareness, stress management and diversity. The evaluations from the camp demonstrated that student knowledge did increase during the camp. For example, at the end of camp students were asked why it is important to pay attention to their body. As almost 89% of students said they do understand the various reasons why it is important to pay attention to their body, 6% said they do not understand at all. Wellbeing is the foundation to student learning.
- Supports were provided to student individuals across our 26 schools in 2020-2021. 923 students in our school board were provided (either in person or virtually) with mental health individualized support by the school social workers and child and youth workers. Individualized wellbeing plans were developed, monitoring progress and supports on a continuous basis.
- The Student Support and Wellbeing Team connected with 418 students from the 578 grade 9 students to support their transition back to secondary school. The purpose of the “caring adult” calls was to support and connect with the student to understand their needs upon returning back to school and notify them that they would receive a call from a grade 12 student at the end of August. Of these students, 92 students were contacted and provided transitional plans for back to school which is still occurring now. 287 students were also provided clinical counselling and wellbeing check ins during the summer to support their mental health and wellbeing.

B. Social Emotional Learning Camp

Chris Preece

- St. Clair Catholic’s Student Support and Wellbeing Team ran a summer camp for grade 4-5 students in late August called *Camp Connect*. This camp focused on improving students’ social emotional learning and physical literacy skills. The Sarnia-Lambton and Chatham-Kent camps had over 50 participants with students reporting increased knowledge and intent to use new skills learned this school year.

C. SMHO Resources/ First 20 Days

Chris Preece

- In June 2021 a group of teachers, and support staff were brought together to develop an easy to use resource based on healthy growth and development of a student from grades K to 12. The first 20 days resources focused on supporting self awareness, body awareness, grounding, naming our emotions and stress management. The quick and easy to use activities were distributed to all staff during a PD day in September 2021.

D. Student Transition Support

Jen Morrow

- BCBA's led the student transition support this summer. The goals were to re-familiarize students with their school environment, to meet the staff, to leave with something tangible - takeaways to bring home, and to make the visits fun for the students and their families. Of the 337 students/families that were invited, 129 participated in the transition visits.

7. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

- Some schools have had to reorganize their classroom organization.
- A couple of cohorts have been sent home to isolate.
- Two new outdoor classrooms have been opened at both Monsignor Uyen Catholic School in Chatham and at St. Anne Catholic School in Sarnia. The goal of the Board is to open more outdoor classrooms as the next few years progress.
- We celebrate the opening of Monsignor Uyen Catholic School in Chatham, as the new, refurbished French Immersion school. Tours were conducted for parents and students. The official blessing will take place on Thursday, September 23, 2021.
- We continue to have a Virtual school for both elementary and secondary students. The virtual elementary school has 103 students and the virtual secondary school has over 100. The virtual secondary school is being very innovative as students need specific courses required for graduation. Offering these courses can be a challenge with the low number of students in virtual school. The virtual school is offering these courses in conjunction with other school boards and teachers. The quadmester system continues to be in place in the virtual secondary school where students take only 2 courses at a time.
- The new Superintendent of Education, Chris Kehoe, has been announced. Chris was the former principal of St. Patrick's Catholic Secondary School.
- A lot of work to improve the physical structure of our schools was completed throughout the Board this past summer.
- On-going preparations for the new school in Chatham.
- The next Board meeting will be Deb Crawford's last meeting prior to her retirement.
- Carol expressed sincere thanks to Deb for her dedication in all of the roles she has held in the Board during her tenure, especially her dedication to Special Education.

8. QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

9. PRESENTATIONS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS



10. FUTURE MEETING DATES

November 15, 2021
December 13, 2021
January 17, 2022
February 28, 2022
March 21, 2022
April 25, 2022
May 16, 2022
June 20, 2022

11. ADJOURNMENT - Carol Bryden informally adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.