

LAMBTON-KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

~ Thursday, December 11, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m. ~

Present:	Rose Gallaway - St. Clair Child and Youth Services (Chair) Jack Fletcher - Trustee Janet Vanderwerf – VIEWS for Children Who Are Blind or Have Low Vision Julia MacKellar – Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent Susan Mitchell – Member “at large” Elizabeth Hudie – Trustee (Vice-Chair) Jerry Knight – Lambton County Developmental Services	
Regrets:	Sarah Busby – Autism Ontario, Sarnia-Lambton Chapter Melissa Hewitt – VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children Jim Townsend – Member “at large” Eva Lizotte – Community Living Wallaceburg Norma Hills – Community Living Sarnia-Lambton Christy Bressette – First Nation Representative Gordon Crompton – Community Living Chatham-Kent George Melendy – Learning Disabilities Association of Lambton County	
Resource Staff:	Dave Doey, Superintendent of Education Pam Graham, System Coordinator of Special Education Rhonda Leystra, Lambton-Kent Secondary Administrators’ Association Liz Zantingh, Special Education Coordinator Debbie Seager, Special Education Coordinator Lori Gall, Recording Secretary	
Guests:	Julie Kingma, Public Educator, Epilepsy Support Centre – Sarnia Branch	
Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action
Call to Order and Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Janet Moved and Elizabeth Seconded that “<i>The Agenda was approved, as is</i>”; all in favour 	
Approval of Minutes of October 16, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julia Moved and Janet Seconded that “<i>The Minutes were approved as is</i>”; all in favour 	
Business Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no business arising from the Minutes 	
Presentation on Technology (iPads, Apps and Accessibility) by Mike Adam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Adam provided an overview of many of the apps that are provided to students, they include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ <i>Speech Detect</i> is an app that helps with accessibility and predictive text ✓ <i>iReadWrite</i> and <i>iWordQ</i> are apps that help with writing; they have visual tracking and auditory feedback for text to speech ✓ <i>Inspiration Maps</i> and <i>Popplets</i> help with brainstorming, mapping and writing templates ✓ <i>Dragon</i> and <i>PaperPort Notes</i> are able to translate speech to text ✓ <i>Pages</i> is a word processor ✓ <i>Clicker Sentences</i>, <i>Clicker Connect</i>, <i>Clicker Docs</i> and <i>Symbol Support</i> are for students learning to speak and express themselves ✓ <i>Readiris</i> offers OCR-style technology to scan documents, which will allow text to reading of hard copy documents ✓ <i>ClaroPDF</i> is similar to Kurzweil software, in that it scans pictures and helps them to annotate; Pam noted that it helps students prep for EQAO-type questions ✓ <i>Show Me</i>, <i>Educreations</i>, <i>Screen Chomp</i> can allow for teachable moments to be recorded so students can play them back ✓ <i>D2L (Desire to Learn)</i> ✓ <i>Google Drive</i> provides for cloud-sharing of documents, spreadsheets and slides ✓ <i>Mindomo</i> allows for mind-mapping ✓ <i>iTunesU</i> provides free university non-credit courses 	

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Presentation on Technology (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ <i>App Smashing</i> allows for transfer of content between apps to allow for more functionality ✓ Media-based apps are <i>iMovie</i>, <i>Explain Everything</i>, <i>Green Screen by Do Ink</i> ✓ <i>Scrawlar</i> was developed by one of our teachers from Chatham, it's a web-based white board (http://www.scrawlar.com) • Mike noted that students are inquiry-based learners • All students with a learning disability who are in Grade 6 are going to have iPads by Grade 7 and will be ready for the TELP Program • He noted that the Assistive Tech. Team connects everything they do on behalf of students to the six Cs of the Board's <i>Engagement Model</i> • Teachers are using Twitter to share information on classroom lessons • He noted that the Board's web portal also provides information for teachers to share • Mike's noted that while his presentation was interactive, he will provide information that can be shared with the group • At the conclusion of Mike's presentation, Julia asked if headphones are used with iPads?; Mike said they generally use ear-buds because students have fewer sensory problems when using ear-buds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike/Liz
2013 – 2014 EQAO Assessment Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave shared results from the Board (attached) for elementary students in reading, writing and math • He noted there has been an uptick in the number of students with special needs (from 56% to 67%) • He noted that math has been trending down for all students, and especially those with special needs; he shared an interesting story regarding First Nations Micmac students scoring into the 80s in math, even though they don't have words to describe numbers • Dave asked staff in attendance to share their thoughts on students' uptake of technology as it relates to the EQAO; Mike said that the supports have been bolstered by coaches and additional teachers; it was noted that scribes are often used because there is a tendency to want to stay with what's familiar instead of trusting technology; Pam said students have to be comfortable with technology beforehand; Mike noted that the teachers are the glue that help to bring together the technologists with the students and the technology that's available to support them 	
October 31, 2014 Exceptional Pupil Statistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam shared the October 31st Exceptional Pupil statistics (attached) • She noted that, over the last year, things have stayed relatively constant for most of the students; she provided an overview of the differences from last year's statistics • Pam cited the fact that there are fewer students with developmental disabilities, learning disabilities and giftedness, but said it's because there are fewer students altogether due to declining enrollment • In response to a question about students that aren't identified, Pam said many students have an IEP, but may never be formally identified; she said that staff try to put interventions in place early in order to help students be successful; she also said that formal testing is generally not undertaken until a student reaches Grade 4 • Jack asked if the numbers capture preschool students?; Pam said they do, but noted that most would not have a formal identification 	

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SEAC Member Recruitment Advertisement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave noted that the advertisement seeking applicants (sample provided in the Agenda Package) was placed in local papers; there were several individuals that responded • The Board will review the applications to select individuals who would be a good fit for appointment, based on the organization they are with, etc., and, those who may attend as ‘at large’ members • Dave noted that new members officially join in February, but could begin attending in January if they wish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rose drew everyone’s attention to the correspondence that included in the Agenda Package, and wondered if the members feel it would be prudent to submit a letter to the Ministry?; Pam said that she will check with the Faculty of Education to see what might already be in place so that the Committee can use this information to make their decision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam
Associated Reports, Other Business and Sharing of Best Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liz said an EA P.D. Day was held in November, topics included: assistive technology; anxiety; mental health; and, movement-based supports • Debbie said Pre-school Intake is starting, and numbers are holding steady • Elizabeth advised SEAC there are 5 new Trustees on the Board, and highlighted who they are • Jack is the Board’s new appointment to SEAC, replacing Judy Krall who didn’t seek re-election; Jack said he has worked as a Learning Specialist with the College for several years, and he cited some personal reasons for having a strong interest in this particular area of education • Pam said the Section 23 Audits were just completed and the information has been reported to the Ministry • Pam said the Board is developing a relationship with Lambton College; she noted that their Disabilities Officer will be making a presentation at next month’s meeting, St. Clair College has been asked to attend the meeting to make a presentation as well, but she hasn’t been able to confirm that • Pam said she was at a meeting with community partners today to focus on improving outcomes for students who are leaving the Board • Pam said a new IEP Engine has been adopted; a few schools piloted the Engine in September, and all schools will be coming on-stream next week 	
Questions from the Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie Kingma didn’t have any questions, but stated that they are rolling out a new program called ‘<i>Clinic to Community</i>’ which is very exciting 	
Future Agenda Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rose drew everyone’s attention to the Priority-Setting information in the package and noted that it will serve as a guide to the presentations at future meetings; Pam noted that, because of the cancellation of the November meeting, the timelines that were initially set out will change • If anyone wants to have anything else in particular brought forward throughout the coming year, please let Lori know 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 15, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. via Video-conference (Chatham and Sarnia Education Centres) • Rose drew everyone’s attention to the different location and start time for the next meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All