

LAMBTON-KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

~ Thursday, January 15, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m. ~

Present:	Elizabeth Hudie – Trustee (Acting Chair) 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” Jack Fletcher - Trustee 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	
Regrets:	Rose Gallaway - St. Clair Child and Youth Services Melissa Hewitt – VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children Jerry Knight – Lambton County Developmental Services	
Resource Staff:	Dave Doey, Superintendent of Education Pam Graham, System Coordinator of Special Education Rhonda Leystra, Lambton-Kent Secondary Administrators’ Association Bruce Davidson, Special Education Coordinator Shelley Martsch-Litt, Special Education Coordinator Lori Gall, Recording Secretary	
Guests:	Julie Kingma, Public Educator, Epilepsy Support Centre – Sarnia Branch Bob Birnie, Counsellor, St. Clair College Lori Green, Counsellor, Lambton College	
Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action
Call to Order and Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Norma Moved and Christy Seconded <i>“That the Agenda be approved, as is”</i> 	
Approval of Minutes of December 11, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack Moved and George Seconded <i>“That the Minutes be approved, as is”</i> 	
Business Arising from Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no business arising from the December Minutes 	
Presentation: Post-Secondary Supports Available at Lambton College and St. Clair College	<p>Bob Birnie, Counsellor with St. Clair College, and Lori Green, Counsellor with Lambton College were in attendance to share information on post-secondary supports available to exceptional students at their campuses. They decided to share information on frequently asked questions and/or situations that they encounter when supporting students with disabilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Most often, students have inadequate documentation to allow them to receive service through the College’s Accessibility Office; students must have proof of a disability ○ They also noted that students are under the false impression that an IEP lasts a lifetime, but that’s not the case; assessments must have been completed in the past 4 years, as well, assessments must be completed for those 18 and over ○ Assessments remain in place for life for individuals over the age of 18, so Elsa suggested that, if students are turning 18 in the Spring, we hold off on doing their assessment until then so that it stays with them for life ○ There is a Ministry directive that an up-to-date psycho-educational assessment must be completed for students with a learning disability ○ Pam asked if funding is available for OSAP-eligible students to get an up-to-date assessment?; there are some funds available ○ Bob said that the only way the Accessibility Office knows a student has a disability is if they self-identify; both Counsellors reported that students 	

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<p>Post-Secondary Supports Available at Lambton College and St. Clair College (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pam said the Ministry is providing a lot of information for students with learning disabilities, and wonders if that information is being shared at the College level?; Bob and Lori would like to see that information as they don't recall seeing it; Pam will share that with them ○ Lori noted that the website www.disabilityawards.ca is an excellent resource for students with disabilities who are looking for funding ○ There were no more questions, so Elizabeth thanked Lori and Bob for their presentations and the information they shared 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam
<p>Annual Accessibility Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2013-2014 Plan was shared with SEAC members in September; members were asked to review the Plan at their leisure and, if there is anything that they would like to see amended, they can bring it back to SEAC for discussion and, if necessary, the item will be forwarded to the Accessibility Committee • Dave said that he received information from Building Services regarding proposed facility upgrades (i.e. wheelchair ramps, etc.) for schools to further increase accessibility; Spec. Ed. has been asked to look at the list and bring forward other needs as they may arise through the school year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All
<p>SEAC Membership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave received nomination letters from various agencies; he will share the list of organizations/applicants with the Trustees appointed to SEAC in order to receive their input • Once that work has been completed, a Report will be prepared for the Board's Private Session • After the Board has dealt with the appointments, Lori will prepare letters of confirmation to the agencies/individuals selected, as well as a letter of thanks to others who applied but were not selected • Once the new appointees join SEAC, a Chair and Vice-Chair will be selected; Dave reminded members that the Chair or the Vice-Chair must be a Trustee 	
<p>Special Education Report Amendments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam reviewed the amendments (if any) suggested for Section 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2 and 2.7 • There were no questions or concerns raised relative to recommendations for those items brought forward for January 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori
<p>Correspondence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No correspondence was received for the Committee since its last meeting 	
<p>Association Reports and Other Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eva reported that they are commencing with new fundraising initiatives, etc. • Bruce said the IPRCs for Grade 8s going to Grade 9 are beginning in February; he assured everyone they will share the info. they heard tonight • Dave would like SEAC to receive a progress report on the work being undertaken with the ESC LHIN and partner agencies; Pam will provide an overview at the next meeting • Gordon said that Ron Coristine, a long-time employee of Community Living, was recently appointed as the new Executive Director for their organization • Julia provided a pamphlet on their 2015 Winter/Spring Programs • Christy said there will be a career and trades fair for indigenous students hosted by <i>IndSpire</i> (http://indspire.ca/2014-new/) in May; students can partner with organizations, and students with disabilities will be supported • George said they have implemented 'Family Math' which is a family-oriented math program; they are seeing varying levels of success • Pam said the training on the new IEP Engine has been completed; she advised that now they are implementing the Meeting Management Module • Pam said there was a meeting with Aamjiwnaang First Nations recently to ensure students are supported when arriving from Aamjiwnaang's JK class to LKDSB schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam

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<p>Association Reports and Other Business (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam reported that Sarnia-Lambton Rebound and C.A.S. are starting a new classroom - a minimum of ten students will be supported to increase engagement so they have a 'future story'; she noted that the LKDSB has applied to operate summer-school elementary and secondary classrooms too, they are waiting to hear if our Board was chosen • Pam said we are involved with Lambton College's "Youth Championship" for students who are in care • Pam reported that the Pre-School Intake process has begun – there will be 79 JK students coming in 2015; there were only 56 students in 2014, so that is a significant increase 	
<p>Questions from the Public</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie Kingma said the Sarnia Branch of the Epilepsy Support Centre has many presentations booked; things are going well, including their new initiatives 	
<p>Future Agenda Items</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support the timing of new members joining SEAC, the presentation on 'Guidelines and Training for SEAC Members' will be moved to March 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, February 19, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m. via video-conference (Sarnia and Chatham Education Centres) 	
<p>Adjournment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m. 	