

LAMBTON-KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

~ Thursday, September 14, 2017 @ 6:00 p.m. at Wallaceburg District Secondary School ~

Present:	Rose Gallaway - St. Clair Child and Youth Services (Chair) Elizabeth Hudie – Trustee (Acting Vice-Chair) Norma Hills for Chris King – Community Living, Sarnia-Lambton Eva Lizotte – Community Living, Wallaceburg Jean McIntyre – Member “at large” Jen Scheuneman – Autism Ontario, Chatham-Kent and Sarnia Lambton Chapters Janet Vanderwerf – VIEWS for Children Who Are Blind or Have Low Vision	
Regrets:	Jack Fletcher – Trustee (Vice-Chair) Tabitha Cook, Epilepsy Support Centre Sandra Perkins, System Coordinator of Special Education Jennifer Gillespie – Member “at large”	
Absent:	Anika Altiman – First Nation Representative Dawn Cartier – Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent Jerry Knight – Lambton County Developmental Services	
Resource Staff:	Angie Barrese, Superintendent of Education Jim Stewart, Lambton-Kent Secondary Administrators’ Association Bruce Davidson, Special Education Coordinator (Secondary) Lisa Valade, Special Education Coordinator Adam Davis, Special Education Coordinator Angie Moule, Special Education Coordinator Sheila Richardson, Special Education Coordinator Lori Gall, Recording Secretary	
Guests:	Bonnie Gotelaer, Special Education Secretary	
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Details/Discussion</b>	<b>Action Items</b>
Call to Order and Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rose called the meeting to order</li> <li>• Because of the new individuals on SEAC, Angie Barrese asked everyone to introduce themselves                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ New members include Adam Davis, Angie Moule and Sheila Richardson – Elementary Special Education Coordinators</li> <li>○ Jim Stewart, Principal at A.M.S.S., noted that he and Bernadette Bruette, the Vice-Principal at J.M.S.S., will be this year’s representatives from the Lambton-Kent Secondary Administrators’ Association, replacing Elsa Natvik and Caroline White</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Janet moved, Elizabeth seconded <i>“That the Agenda be approved”</i>; All in favour</li> <li>• Rose informed the members that Trustee Fletcher, Tabitha Cook and Sandra Perkins had each forwarded their regrets for this evening’s meeting</li> <li>• Lori Gall informed the members that Susan Mitchell, Member at Large, has had to resign from SEAC due to scheduling conflicts</li> <li>• The members were also informed that Community Living Chatham-Kent won’t be appointing Gordon Crompton’s replacement on SEAC until its next Board Meeting</li> <li>• Eva Lizotte advised the membership that this is her last SEAC meeting as she’s resigned her position on the Community Living Wallaceburg’s Board of Directors</li> </ul>	
Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rose recited the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement</li> </ul>	
Approval of Minutes of June 15, 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elizabeth moved, Eva seconded <i>“That the Minutes of June 15, 2017 be approved”</i>; All in favour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lori</li> </ul>
Business Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was no business arising from the June 15, 2017 Minutes</li> </ul>	

Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action Items
<p>Exceptional Students Suspended (Out-of-School) By School Year</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Superintendent Barrese reviewed the 2016-2017 data as it compares to the data for the two prior school years</li> <li>• She pointed out the significant decline in the number of out-of-school-suspensions saying that she believes it's the direct result of the Board's efforts to be inclusive, and to support students as they learn to express themselves in ways that are appropriate</li> <li>• Jean inquired as to the typical length of an out-of-school suspension; Angie stated that it can vary depending on the reason(s) for the suspension and said that when a student is disciplined it's generally progressive in nature; this method addresses the issues head on and helps to reduce the number and length of out-of-school and/or multi-day suspensions</li> <li>• In response to a follow-up question about the suspensions it was noted that there could be some students who received more than one out-of-school suspension</li> <li>• Trustee Hudie believes that the members of the Special Education Department provide excellent support for students and this also helps to keep the number of suspensions low; Angie thanked Elizabeth and said that the praise belongs to the school teams</li> <li>• Jean noted that the numbers for behaviour students is surprisingly low; Angie said the Board very rarely identifies a student with an exceptionality of 'behaviour' because identifying students with that exceptionality creates a negative connotation that isn't helpful to the student as they strive to be successful in life; typically students who <i>are</i> identified with a 'behaviour' exceptionality have come to us from other school board and, often, the LKDSB re-IPRC's the student to change the exceptionality; this is reflected in the low number of out-of-school suspensions cited for students identified with an exceptionality of 'behaviour'</li> <li>• Bruce said that the term 'behaviour' is actually a catch-all term that's used when there is a deficit in a student's ability to learn that can't be pinpointed to any other source; the Ministry of Education still uses 'behaviour' as an exceptionality</li> </ul>	
<p>Memo to SEAC re: 2016-2017 Special Equipment Amount (SEA) Claims</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rose drew the members' attention to the SEA Claims memo that details the amount of money provided to the Lambton Kent District School Board for SEA equipment for the Board's students</li> <li>• The Ministry reimburses the LKDSB for costs (beyond \$800 per student) per school year, through an annual claim submission process</li> <li>• Between May 1, 2016 and April 30, 2017, the LKDSB purchased equipment for 108 students at an actual cost of \$418,141.04 (less applicable GST/HST) with the cost to the Board being \$86,400.00 (x \$800.00) therefore the eligible total for reimbursement is \$331,741.04</li> <li>• Angie said Bonnie Gotelaer maintains the SEA spreadsheet, tracks all of the equipment purchased, and reports to the Ministry, etc.</li> </ul>	
<p>Priority-Setting Exercise</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The members spent time identifying areas of interest for potential presentations during the 2017 – 2018 school year and then worked to prioritize all of the suggestions; after being ranked, the top 10 ideas for presentations/activities (ranked in order of importance) included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Student Success Stories</li> <li>2) Renewed Math Strategy: How to Support Students and Encourage Success?</li> <li>3) Preparing Spec. Ed. Students for the Workplace</li> <li>4) Mental Health Mindfulness: Yoga</li> <li>5) Exploration of How Coding is Used to Enhance Educational Opportunities with Spec. Ed. Students</li> <li>6) Supporting Families: Resources; Goal-Setting; Family Supports</li> <li>7) How Do Post-Secondary Institutions Support Students?</li> <li>8) Transitions Out of High School</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	

Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action Items
Priority-Setting Exercise (continued)	9) What Is Our Response to Cultural Diversity? 10) Drugs in Schools: New Laws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Angie thanked everyone for their input and said the Special Education Team will review the information and will develop a schedule of presentations/activities for the SEAC Meetings for 2017-2018 with the information being shared at next month's meeting</li> </ul>	
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was no correspondence</li> </ul>	
Association Reports, Other Business and Sharing of Best Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jen reported that Autism Ontario's Sarnia-Lambton/Chatham-Kent Chapter has a new President</li> <li>• Janet she has some information on Short Term Programs at W. Ross Macdonald that she'll submit to Lori for distribution</li> <li>• Elizabeth noted that the Board's Trustees recently had their first Board Meeting of the 2017-2018 school year</li> <li>• Eva reported that their organization's LEAN initiative is well under way; first management was trained, and then staff; they are now focusing on medication management to ensure there are no errors made; the organization has also instituted "huddle group" meetings that are quick and more effective</li> <li>• Eva reported that a <a href="#">Care and Share Family Network</a>, with one-time seed funding provided by Community Living Ontario, allowed 48 families across the Province to network and problem-solve using a new website and Facebook page; Community Living is now reviewing sustainability options</li> <li>• The Summer Employment Transitions program saw 10 individuals participate; these individuals found work and several of them are transitioning to JobMatch</li> <li>• Their organization held a 3 Rivers Roll event (based on a slow roll they have in Detroit) and had tremendous success; they received \$500 in donations to buy a wheelchair bicycle; because of its success, they are exploring ways to turn the event into a fundraiser</li> <li>• Their organization's Wallaceburg Baseball Challenge took place; it was very inclusive and lots of fun</li> <li>• Eva reported that Community Living Wallaceburg' Annual General Meeting is set for September 20th</li> <li>• Sheila reported that there are 11 new Resource Teachers receiving the "New to Resource" training that takes place over several days; she said that the group is enthusiastic, noting that they stay long after the day's training is done to ask questions and learn more</li> <li>• Norma said Community Living Sarnia-Lambton's Summer Employment Program served 53 students in a variety of 80 jobs across Sarnia, Lambton and area</li> <li>• Their organization's Summer Youth Adventure Program had 50 participants and was very fun and successful; she said the program was carried out throughout the entire summer and met the needs of many families</li> <li>• They just had a successful fundraiser at Orchard View Campground; totals haven't been confirmed yet but they think they raised approximately \$22,000</li> <li>• Jim reported that the Lambton-Kent Secondary Administrator's Group hasn't met yet; he is looking forward to participating in SEAC Meetings again</li> <li>• Angie Barrese said that it has been busy and exciting start-up to the school year; she's pleased that the Board received two years of funding for several additional Itinerant staff, and EAs; she's also happy that there are such great teams in place to support the Board's students</li> <li>• Rose reported that St. Clair Child &amp; Youth has been offering a walk-in clinic on Tuesdays from 12 – 8 p.m. and, because of its success, they are going to be offering a Thursday morning walk-in clinic; their Dual Diagnosis Team is scheduling clinics to accommodate 2 families per week</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lori</li> </ul>
Future Agenda Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were no requests for future agenda items</li> </ul>	

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Details/Discussion</b>	<b>Action Items</b>
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>October 19, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at Wallaceburg District Secondary School, Room 141</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All</li></ul>
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.</li></ul>	