

**LAMBTON-KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

~ Thursday, September 20, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m. at Wallaceburg District Secondary School ~

Present:	Rose Gallaway - St. Clair Child and Youth Services (Chair) Jack Fletcher – Trustee (Vice-Chair) Sherry Nelson, Autism Ontario - Chatham-Kent and Sarnia Lambton Chapters Steve Stokley – Community Living, Chatham-Kent Chris King – Community Living, Sarnia-Lambton Sandra Pidduck, Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario Julia MacKellar – Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent Janet Vanderwerf – VIEWS for Children Who Are Blind or Have Low Vision
Regrets:	Elizabeth Hudie – Board Chair Jean McIntyre – Member “at large”
Absent without Notice:	Jerry Knight – Lambton County Developmental Services Kayla Murphy – Community Living, Wallaceburg
Resource Staff:	Angie Barrese, Superintendent of Education Sandra Perkins, System Coordinator of Special Education Marty Passmore, Lambton-Kent Secondary Administrators’ Association Heather Touzin, Special Education Coordinator – Secondary Lisa Valade, Special Education Coordinator Lori Gall, Recording Secretary
Guests:	Katie Colameco, Mental Health Leader – LKDSB Mike Adam, Team Leader, Assistive Technology – LKDSB Tara Mitchell, Resource Teacher - Assistive Technology - LKDSB Lis Hoskins, Attendance Officer – Lambton Kent District School Board

Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action Items
Call to Order and Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rose Gallaway called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce themselves since there were new members and several guests in attendance • Rose informed SEAC about those individuals who provided their regrets, and noted that Jennifer Gillespie (Member “at large”) resigned • Jack Fletcher moved, Janet Vanderwerf seconded “<i>That the Agenda be approved</i>”; All in favour 	
Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rose recited the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgment 	
Approval of Minutes of June 14, 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris King Moved, Sherry Nelson Seconded “That the Minutes of June 14, 2018 be approved”; All in favour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori Gall
Business Arising from Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superintendent Barrese said the Projected Special Education Staffing information for 2018-2019 has been compiled and will be shared 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori Gall
Presentation – Mental Health Support Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katie Colameco, the new Mental Health Leader for the Board, made a brief presentation in which she outlined her background and referenced the goals she’ll be working towards over the next 3 years, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ System alignment/coordination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ She said she’ll focus on student wellness, and ▪ Pathways to care ○ Youth/family engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ She’ll work to engage parents/families to support their student(s) ○ Capacity building (Multidisciplinary Teams) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ She will visit all the Board’s schools to learn about the specific needs in the building • Jack Fletcher stated the importance of connections within the community when supporting students; Katie agreed and said it’s essential not to reinvent the wheel and, instead, utilize programs and services that are working well • Chris King asked what types of issues she’s seeing in the schools?; Katie said she’s only been able to visit 3 schools so far, but she’s hearing that attendance is an issue so there will need to be a focus on re-engaging students; as well, she said anxiety appears to be an issue, so helping students to manage anxiety (with supports) will be another area of focus 	

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Presentation – Assistive Technology Tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Adam and Tara Mitchell made a presentation about assistive technology and provided a hands-on opportunity for members to try out some apps. • Mike said Google Read & Write helps students to speak, spell, and listen, while Snapverter helps provide readable materials for students by allowing the teacher to take a picture of a document the student can view and manipulate • Mike noted that while their team provides the tools and some training, teachers need to work with their students to ensure they're successful in using the technology on an ongoing basis • Julia MacKellar asked if they use Kurzweil?; Mike said it was too expensive; Google Read & Write is affordable and everyone can use it, not just a few • Tara said that another benefit of Google Read & Write is that it will look/function the same as it does at school if they use it on their home computer, or the library, etc.; she also spoke about the importance of the 'listening' component of the program in helping students to find their errors • Angie Barrese said another nice feature of the program is that it can be used for various languages, so it's good for our French immersion students and/or the English Language Learners, etc. • Sandra Perkins thanked the team for the information they shared; she assured SEAC that the Team is always looking for the most meaningful, accessible programs for our students to ensure that everyone is included 	
Terms of Reference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superintendent Barrese reviewed the SEAC Regulation regarding the operation and conduct of the committee and asked if there were any questions or concerns; seeing none, Jack Moved, Chris Seconded "<i>That the Regulation be approved</i>"; All in favour • She thanked the members, indicating that she wanted to ensure everyone had a chance to review/approve the Regulation before it's submitted to the Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superintendent Barrese
Priority-Setting Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The members spent time identifying areas of interest for potential presentations and then prioritized all of the suggestions; the ideas included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Transitions – Connection Between the LKDSB and Service Providers to Bridge Students to Agencies 2) a) DSO – Criteria Associated with the Passport Program b) How Can Schools Help 18+-Year-Old Students Apply for DSO/ODSP? 3) ALLP Field Trip/Classroom Experience 4) Mental Health Supports for Students with Special Needs 5) On-site tours to see what's happening 6) Attendance Officer's Role in Curbing Truancy 7) Association Presentations 8) Epilepsy SWO 9) Supports in response to violence in the classroom 10) Virtual Reality in the Classroom 11) Multidisciplinary Team 12) ESL Support 13) Board strategies to Provide More Supports with Less Funding 14) Implications for the Board in light of the Ontario Human Rights Commission's revised policy on accessible education for students with disabilities • Superintendent Barrese thanked everyone for their efforts and said that the Spec. Ed. Team will review the information in order to develop a schedule of presentations/activities for the 2018-2019 SEAC Meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spec. Ed. Team
Exceptional Students Suspended (Out-of-School), By School Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superintendent Barrese presented the information on the number of exceptional pupils suspended during the 2017-2018 school year • Chris King asked why secondary students are suspended more frequently than elementary students?; Superintendent Barrese said that as students age 	

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Exceptional Students Suspended (Out-of-School), By School Year (continued)	<p>sometimes the behaviours become more intense and therefore students are suspended for safety (of self and others); Chris also wonders if, because there are fewer EA supports in high school, it could be related to that?; it was noted that the Team has tried to ensure supports are allocated where they're needed, whether it's elementary or secondary school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack asked for clarification about the number of students suspended with an identification of a learning disability?; Superintendent Barrese said students identified as having a learning disability represent 51% of the Board's student population so, proportionately, that number is going to be larger 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
SEAC Advertisement – Call for Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superintendent Barrese informed the members that, following the October 22nd Municipal election, associations will receive an invitation to nominate a representative (and an alternate) from their association to sit on SEAC • She informed SEAC that since the Call for Applications will be advertised through the Board's social media accounts and on its website, it will no longer be advertised in local papers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori Gall
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no correspondence submitted to SEAC 	
Association Reports, Other Business and Sharing of Best Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Pidduck said she's new in her role at Epilepsy SW Ontario; she's been going to schools to provide teachers with seizure medication training; as well, their association will provide education on how to deliver life-saving meds • Lisa Valade said pre-school intake was busy and noted that the new students are transitioning well • Chris King said their quality assurance measures were recently scored again and they received 100%, placing them at the top 5 in the province; he offered support to other associations looking at going through this process • He reported that their association upgraded its website and subsequently won a 'website and social media' award • Chris Moore said he is happy to be in his role as System Coordinator for the Multidisciplinary Team and is seeking out best practices in order to provide supports to others • Sherry Nelson said Autism Ontario is starting their Parent Networking Meetings again; the next meeting is October 18th at King George VI in Chatham • Steve Stokley said their Summer Employment Program had 15 students; as well, they ran their canteen at the soccer fields in Chatham over the summer, and, they're operating the St. Clair College cafeteria again • He reported that their 'School Day to Pay Day' program has commenced and they have 5 students per term that will work at Truly Green greenhouse • Superintendent Barrese reported on enrolment and indicated that the LKDSB is up by about 100 students in the elementary panel while the secondary panel is holding steady • She explained that the Ministry is funding Multidisciplinary Teams; more information about that initiative will be provided at a later date • Jack Fletcher said the Board is dealing with several issues, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the Health & Education Curriculum, ○ construction delays at GLSS, and ○ reports of the LKDSB's EQAO scores slipping (noting that additional math coaches have been hired to help bring the scores back up) • Rose Gallaway said that St. Clair Child & Youth Services are still offering Walk-in Clinics on scheduled days, and she noted they accept appointments for Dual Diagnosis consultations • She also reported that she and her co-worker have been busy visiting schools to ensure students are settling into their classrooms 	
Future Agenda Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rose told the members that, in addition to topics that will come forward as a result of the Priority-Setting Session, members can let Lori Gall know if there is something they'd like to have placed on an Agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 18 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Wallaceburg District Secondary School, Room 141 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. 	