LAMBTON-KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
~ Thursday, November 17, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m. at Wallaceburg District Secondary School ~

Present:	Rose Gallaway - St. Clair Child and Youth Services (Chair)
	Anika Altiman – First Nation Representative
	Jerry Knight – Lambton County Developmental Services
	Eva Lizotte – Community Living, Wallaceburg
	Janet Vanderwerf – VIEWS for Children Who Are Blind or Have Low Vision
	Dawn Babkirk – Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent
	Chris King – Community Living, Sarnia-Lambton
	Jennifer Gillespie – Member "at large"
	Jean McIntyre – Member "at large"
Regrets:	Gordon Crompton – Community Living, Chatham-Kent
	Elizabeth Hudie – Trustee (Vice-Chair)
	Jack Fletcher - Trustee
	Jen Scheuneman – Autism Ontario, Chatham-Kent and Sarnia Lambton Chapters
	Susan Mitchell – Member "at large"
	Tabitha Vercillo, Epilepsy Support Centre
	George Melendy – Learning Disabilities Association of Lambton County
Resource Staff:	Dave Doey, Superintendent of Education
	Pam Graham, System Coordinator of Special Education
	Caroline White, Lambton-Kent Secondary Administrators' Association
	Shelley Martsch-Litt, Special Education Coordinator
	Liz Zantingh, Special Education Coordinator
	Lori Gall, Recording Secretary
Guest:	Amanda Leidl, Special Education Department - Assistive Technology Team Member

Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action Items
Call to Order and Approval of Agenda	- Rose called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. - In response to the recent announcement that Superintendent Doey will be retiring at the end of December 2016 the Chair expressed gratitude, on behalf of all of the members of SEAC, for Dave's many years of service on behalf of the Board, and SEAC - Dave thanked the members of the group for their service too, and said that it has been a privilege to be a part of Special Education and to have worked alongside the members of SEAC - Rose informed the members that Item #5 (October 31, 2016 Exceptional Pupil Numbers) will have to be deferred to the December meeting - Chris Moved, Eva Seconded "*That the Agenda be approved, as amended*"; All in favour	• Lori
Approval of Minutes of October 20, 2016	Janet Moved, Jennifer Seconded "*That the Minutes of October 20, 2016 be approved*"; All in favour	• Lori
Business Arising	There was no business arising	
Presentation: *Assistive Technology Communication Tools*	- Liz said that, at the Priority-Setting Meeting, there was an interest in learning more about technology, such as Google Classroom - She introduced Amanda Leidl who is a member of the Assistive Technology Team to provide an overview of two programs used by Board staff to communicate with students and their parents/guardians - Amanda said information in Google Classroom can be accessed across multiple devices - It offers differentiated instruction through streamlined use of accessibility features (i.e. Google Read/Write) and works with Google Docs - Resource Teachers and Special Education Teachers can be added to a student's "classroom" so they can view the student's work; parents can also be added in order to view the student's work/grades	

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Presentation: *Assistive Technology Communication Tools* (continued)	Teacher View • Google classroom allows students to organize their work and tracks assignments from their start to their submission to the Teacher, and keeps track of grades • Teachers can prepare instructions and attach files to be displayed for the class and can also communicate with students one on one • The teacher can quickly see which assignments are done and which ones aren't, and, they can view a student's work, as they complete it • The teacher marks the work and returns it to the student online • Caroline asked if the marks can link to MarkBook?; Amanda doesn't believe that it's a feature of Google Classroom yet Student View • Students can see who all their classmates are and can post comments on each other's classroom pages • Students can see assignments that are open/incomplete; once work is submitted, it's marked as 'done'; late assignments are highly visible and, once submitted, are marked as 'done, but late'	
	D2L • Amanda spoke briefly about D2L, which is an online platform that is somewhat similar to Google classroom • She noted that there is more information/lists on D2L, and the news feed has more information; this can be somewhat overwhelming for younger students so D2L is generally used by more senior students • D2L doesn't work well with Google Read/Write, but does work with Google Docs Summary • Amanda said that, while the two platforms each have their place, Google Classroom provides a simplicity that she feels makes it a better product • Eva asked how parents can engage?; Amanda said that each parent receives a secure email address that allows them to only see their child's work/grades • Jennifer said she has school-aged children that use technology, and pointed out that students can work on a project with others even if they can't get together in person, so it allows for group work/collaboration • Chris asked if there has been consultation with community colleges to see if they are using similar platforms?; Amanda believes colleges use something similar to D2L but noted that the type of technology used in LKDSB classrooms is dictated by what the Teacher is most comfortable using o Dave encouraged the Assistive Technology Team to put a field trip together to go see what technology the area's colleges and universities are using stating that if the Team could gather info. on what they're using, and bring it back to the Board, they could be agents of change	• AT Team
October 31, 2016 Exceptional Pupil Numbers	• As noted earlier, this item had to be deferred to the December 15th meeting • Dave noted that not all of the schools have uploaded their student records to Trillium OnSIS, so the information can't be extracted until that work is completed	• Lori
Input Regarding LKDSB's Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP)	• The Board's draft Multi-Year Strategic Plan (which is not *specific* to special needs students) was provided to members for their review • Dave indicated that the Plan seeks to connect strategic actions to the 'Belief Statements' and 'Strategic Priorities', and asked the members to share their thoughts on how to achieve that • Discussion focused on the fact that many of the Strategic Actions are too open-ended and would be difficult to measure •	

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Input Regarding LKDSB's MYSP (continued)	• The need for both students *and* teachers to work collaboratively, and to focus on life-long learning, were common themes • Feedback from the members is captured on the attached *Multi-Year Strategic Plan for 2016-2017 to 2018-2019* • Dave thanked everyone for their input	
Correspondence	• There was no correspondence received	
Association Reports, Other Business and Sharing of Best Practices	• Chris provided an update on the JobStart Toolkits noting that the Assistant Deputy Minister of Community and Social Services shared a ToolKit with the Deputy Minister for Education; Community Living hopes that the Kit will be integrated provincially o Chris noted that the LKDSB has been involved since the beginning and asked if would be possible to get an update?; Pam said that a presentation is scheduled for June 2017 • Dawn reminded everyone about the programs that they are currently operating, and reported that each group is at its capacity • Pam said Resource Teachers were released to participate in a workshop on math strategies; as well, there was an in-service offered that focused on learning disabilities in math, and Resource Teachers heard about how a learning disability presents itself in a math class • Eva asked for an update on the PACE Program; Dave reported that the program has resulted in reduced suspension rates, fewer missed classes, and improved grades and costs $5,000 - $6,00 per month to operate; Enbridge had funded the program for three years but that has concluded; the Board is providing interim funding to cover the first semester, and efforts are under way to obtain stable funding o Dave noted that Anika has played a key role in securing funding and noted that Walpole Island First Nation (WIFN) has been an excellent partner since the outset o Anika said that, in past, Ontario Trillium Funding flowed through WIFN as seed money; she is continuing to send out proposals and is hoping the wind farms will support the cause but feels that a long-term sustainability plan needs to be developed; funding often focuses on academics but there are other aspects to supporting students • Dave announced that the incoming Superintendent of Special Education is Angie Barrese; she is currently a Coordinator for Elementary System Program; because of her previous role she will be able to identify all of the places where the Program and Special Education departments can work together • Shelley advised SEAC that the Ministry invited Boards to submit funding proposals to support students with Autism Spectrum Disorders and that LKDSB applied for funding for an after-school skills development program targeted to small groups of students (between 13 – 21 years of age) with ASD o Dawn asked how many students have autism?; the most up-to-date information will be brought to the next meeting as part of the October 31st Exceptional Pupil Report • Shelley reported that it is Pre-School Intake time; there will be a meeting at Chatham-Kent Children's Services next week and a meeting at Pathways in January	• Spec. Ed. Team
Next Meeting	• Rose reminded everyone that the next meeting is scheduled for December 15, 2016 and will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will be conducted via Video-Conference between the Sarnia Education Centre and the Chatham Regional Education Centre • She also noted that, because it's the holiday season, there will be light food and refreshments again	
Adjournment	• The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.	