

LAMBTON-KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

~ Thursday, April 20, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. at St. Clair College of Applied Arts & Technology's Thames Campus ~

Present:	Gillian Hueniken – Children’s Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent Lisa Veenendaal for Sandy Boldt – Community Integration through Cooperative Education, Lambton College Steve Stokley – Community Living Chatham-Kent Chris King – Community Living Sarnia Lambton (Chair) Wendy Smith – Community Living Wallaceburg Vicki Ware – Four First Nation (Education Authority) Representative Lori Richardson – Lambton County Developmental Services Malinda Little – LKDSB Trustee (Vice-Chair) Kelley Robertson - LKDSB Trustee Sarah Simmons – LINCK Child, Youth & Family Supports Alecia Atterbury – Parent Rep. for Julia MacKellar – Learning Disabilities Association of C-K – Via Teams Trevor Aldous – Member-at-Large Melanie Coll – Pathways Health Centre for Children Lori Marvin – St. Clair Child & Youth Services	
Regrets:	Melani Rich – Autism Ontario West Region Michelle Holbrook – Sarnia Lambton Rebound Adam Davis, Student Support Services/Well-Being Coordinator Tara Mitchell, Student Support Services/Well-Being Coordinator Sheila Richardson, Student Support Services/Well-Being Coordinator Marty Passmore, L-K Secondary Administrators’ Rep. Chris Moore, System Coordinator – Multidisciplinary Team	
Resource Staff:	Angie Barrese, Superintendent of Education – Student Support Services/Well-Being Carrielyn Smith, System Administrator – Student Support Services/Well-Being Jeff Brosh, Student Support Services/Well-Being Coordinator Paul Gilbert, Student Support Services/Well-Being Coordinator Heather Touzin, Student Support Services/Well-Being Coordinator - Secondary Taryn Lessard, L-K Elementary Administrators’ Rep. Lori Gall, Recording Secretary	
Guests:	Greta Saklak, Options Program Teacher Chelsea Weaver, Recent LKDSB Options Program Graduate Teanna Lajeunesse, LKDSB Options Program Participant Angela Richards, LKDSB Trustee (Alternate Member of SEAC) Dave Shortt, LKDSB Trustee Michelle LaLonge-Davey, C.U.P.E. President	
Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action Items
Call to Order and Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris King called the meeting to order Malinda Little Moved, Lisa Veenendaal Seconded <i>“That the Agenda be approved”</i>; All in favour 	
Territorial Acknowledgement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kelley Robertson shared a territorial acknowledgement 	
Approval of Minutes of March 23, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steve Stokley Moved, Lori Marvin Seconded <i>“That the Minutes of March 23, 2023 be approved”</i>; All in favour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lori Gall
Business Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no business arising from the Minutes of March 23, 2023 	
Options Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greta Saklak, the Options Program classroom teacher introduced two of her students from the program, Chelsea Weaver and Teanna Lajeunesse Greta said the Options Program helps students that have intellectual disabilities develop the skills required to gain employment and live independently; program participants must be between the ages of 18 – 21 and enjoy a College experience LKDSB’s partners include St. Clair College, the St. Clair Catholic District School Board, Community Living Chatham-Kent and Community Living Wallaceburg Community Living staff have been integral to the program since its inception 20 years ago; their staff sit on the Options Steering Committee and assist in student selection and program planning; as well, staff from the agency’s <i>Jobworx and Job Match</i> support students in the classroom and at their co-op placements and Community Living’s <i>Making It Happen</i> team members provide students with Circles Training 	

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Options Program (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program enrollment is 15 students; participants can be from either the St. Clair Catholic District School Board or the Lambton Kent District School Board • Students are required to have completed 4 years of secondary school, and must have either been working towards an Ontario Secondary School Diploma or they must have received a Certificate of Achievement or a Certificate of Accomplishment; as well, students should have participated in previous work experience opportunities and be able to work independently; applications to the program must be completed by the student, their parent/guardian and applicants must take part in an interview • Subjects include money management, workplace health and safety, career management, parenting, health and nutrition, computer skills, recreation and leisure, and more, and participants are taught how to use the public transportation system • Details about the program and work experiences both Chelsea and Teanna had were shared; the students enjoyed being a part of the College because they had experiences they could not have had in the ABLE Program at a secondary school • Greta said students in the Options Program gain confidence and get connected to supports available through Community Living • Michelle LaLonge-Davey asked if there's an Ambassador Program associated with the Options Program?; Greta said they are hoping to offer Shadow Days in the Fall • The members of SEAC asked a variety of questions of the presenters regarding their experiences and both Chelsea and Teanna indicated they do not think they would be as successful as they have been if they had not been a part of the Options Program • Lori Richardson asked if there is a desire to grow the program and was told that it would be wonderful to expand the program in Chatham-Kent and work with partners interested in growing a program for students in Sarnia-Lambton 	
Updates from Reviews from 2021-2022 School Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heather Touzin said she met Principals of schools with secondary ALLP classrooms to share responses to a survey that had been conducted, and, to discuss next steps; soon she'll meet with secondary ALLP Teachers to discuss 2023-2024 • Tara Mitchell was unable to attend this evening, but Heather told the members the elementary ALLP Program is also growing, and changes for 2023-2024 are being made • Heather said they'll meet with ALLP Teachers in the North to help build relationships • Superintendent Barrese said no ALLP classrooms are being collapsed and three new ALLP Classrooms will be added in September: 1) an additional classroom at JMSS, 2) a Grade 5 – 8 Program at RDSS and, 3) a Grade 5 – 8 Program at WDSS; she acknowledged the important work that Coordinators, School Teams and local agencies do to provide support to ALLP students • Chris King thanked Heather for the update and asked when the Committee could expect to hear the remaining Program Review updates?; Superintendent Barrese said verbal updates can be provided at any time and noted that Carrielyn is working on a review of the E.C.P.P. and I.S. Programs, and a bi-annual Ministry Audit is being conducted; the Chair asked that the E.C.C.P., I.S., Enrichment and ALLP Program updates be provided in the Fall • Superintendent Barrese said they also hope to begin the review of the 'Role of the Resource Teacher (RT)' next year; she explained that the Board is moving to a new software platform for IEPs and IPRCs, etc. and, once that happens, staff can begin the RT Review; she suspects the review will take about 18 months to complete but brief updates will be provided to SEAC throughout the process • Members of SEAC can volunteer to be a part of that Program Review Committee and should contact Superintendent Barrese or Carrielyn Smith if interested Superintendent Barrese said representatives are appointed from local agencies and individuals who applies to be Members-at-Large and two LDKSB Trustees and an Alternate Member are appointed by the Board; as well, several staff members and elementary and secondary Principal Reps. participate as resources to the Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSS/WB Team • SEAC Members

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Process for Motions and Voting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the benefit of the new members, Superintendent Barrese explained the process for members wanting to make motions and/or vote and said anyone who isn't a member and/or those who attend SEAC as a resource or guest cannot make motions or vote It was noted that SEAC Meetings are open to the public and all attendees – whether members or guests – should only bring forward system-wide issues and not raise any topics relative to a specific situation/school/ student at SEAC meetings 	
March 31, 2023 Exceptional Pupil Numbers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superintendent Barrese explained that we report our October 31st and March 31st exceptional pupil numbers each year Exceptional pupils are formally identified while non-exceptional pupils may have an IEP but are not yet formally identified; it was noted that both identified and non-identified students require varying levels of additional supports/accommodations, etc. A question was asked relative to whether the Board receives increased funding if the number of exceptional pupils grows?; Superintendent Barrese said that while funding is based on the number of exceptional pupils, the funds are not sufficient; she also said that the LKDSB does not identify students unless they <i>need</i> to be identified 	
PAaC on SEAC Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris King asked Superintendent Barrese to speak to how and when budget information is shared; she noted that last year the Board received information from the Ministry in February which allowed time for administrators to review the budget and make decisions; the budget for 2023/2024 was received April 17th and related 'B-Memos' are also being received/reviewed; she explained that the Ministry provides: Grants for Student Needs, Transfer Payment Agreements, and limited-time one-time funding from time to time to the Board She informed SEAC that the Manager of Finance, Sandy Scott-Hillier, will present budget information at the May SEAC meeting; Superintendent Barrese said members should feel free to ask questions if they need more information There was discussion about the Trustees' role with regard to representation of issues important to SEAC; Trustee Robertson explained that both she and Trustee Little are part of the budget development process so if there is something the members of SEAC feel should be a priority, they should bring it to their attention; Trustee Robertson said the members of SEAC have the contact information for both Trustee Little and herself, and they should feel free to reach out any time they have questions or concerns Trustee Little said the Finance Department does an excellent job of ensuring that budget information is shared with all of the Board's Committees Chris King sought confirmation that funds from the <i>Special Education Grant</i> are only spent on special education needs, and Superintendent Barrese said that's correct 	
Special Education Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carrielyn Smith outlined the proposed amendments for this month's items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Section 2.10 (Provincial and Demonstration Schools) was updated to reflect the 2022-2023 student information ✓ Section 2.11 (Special Education Staff) received various minor updates to wording and significant updates to the Speech and Language section ✓ Section 2.12 (Staff Development) was updated to reflect the new name of the department ✓ Appendix 2.11.1 (Special Education Staff) was updated to reflect the October 31, 2022 staffing information It was noted that Section 2.13 (Equipment); Appendix 2.13.1 (Special Equipment Amount Funding Administrative Procedure) and Appendix 2.13.2 (Special Equipment Amount Guide to Parents) were reviewed by staff, but no changes were required Chris King asked about the proposed changes to Section 2.11 – Special Education Staff (as reflected under Clause 2.0 - Instructional Personnel and Item 2.5, <i>Itinerant Resource Teacher of Enrichment/Gifted</i>) and was told the wording is being changed because the Additional Qualifications (AQ) course that had been cited is no longer offered and, since the criteria has changed, the wording needed to be changed to reflect the itinerants in the role; there were no further questions or concerns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lori Gall

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Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A tip sheet containing key messaging and information regarding special education funding, which augments information available in the PAaC on SEAC's 'Resource Guide', was shared with members for their use; there was no discussion • A letter dated March 10, 2023 from the Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB was received regarding SIP Claim Funding; it was noted that there has been quite a bit of communication between Boards and to/with the Ministry regarding this issue; no further questions or comments were raised, and no action was taken 	
Association Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wendy Smith of Community Living Wallaceburg said May is Community Living Month; their organization is spearheading a number of initiatives including flag raisings, acknowledging employers involved with their programs, a Biz-Connect event, a movie night, hosting of the monthly Chamber Business-After-Hours event, a concert by Crystal Gage, and their agency will be launching a new jingle on the local radio station; Wendy said she forwarded information to Lori Gall to share with the membership • Wendy said their Summer Program will be connected with Walpole Island First Nation; their shared summer student is starting May 3rd; the Summer Program is open to those ready for competitive employment • Steve Stokley of Community Living Chatham-Kent informed the membership that Developmental Service Ontario distributed a link to a brochure called 'Life After High School' and produced a companion video; Steve provided information to Lori Gall to share with members • Melanie Coll said Pathways is offering an Advocacy Workshop with Guest Speaker Cynthia Lockrey in collaboration with the Children's Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent; also, Parent and Caregiver Support Groups are being held in April with one of the sessions focused on families helping their child(ren) transition into high school; Melanie forwarded information to Lori Gall to share with the membership • Chris King of Community Living Sarnia-Lambton said he forwarded a number of resources that will be shared with the members by Lori Gall • He said they're still waiting to hear about grant funding for their Summer Program; they had 60 applicants for 20 positions; presentations have been made to all secondary schools and there are a number of activities taking place in May • Chris noted that, after many years as their Executive Director, John Hagens is retiring and will be sorely missed; they hope to fill the position prior to his departure • Lori Richardson said they're offering safeTALK; it will be delivered at their office in Petrolia and is open to the public • Superintendent Barrese informed SEAC that ABA Camps will be offered at six schools again this summer; the camps help students in ALLP classrooms prepare to move into secondary school • She noted that the Board will also run an 8-week summer program for students in Kindergarten to Grade 5; 15 students have been hired to run five camps, with three students working at each camp; Trustee Little said she found that the summer camps provided a relaxed setting which allowed children to play, and parents to connect with one another; Superintendent Barrese said the Board is pleased to once again have received reengagement funds to offer supports that are great for students and, in turn, good for families • Superintendent Barrese said the Board has hired post-secondary students to go to elementary schools to help pupils develop their social-emotional learning; she said that post-COVID, students are having to (re)learn how to play and interact with one another • She noted that the Board's Social Workers will be available all summer to support youth and families; the Social Workers will be connecting with agencies to make presentations providing information about available programs and supports • Trevor Aldous said these programs sounds fantastic, noting that he's seen the negative impacts the pandemic had on children/youth and so it's important to have things in place to help students learn to interact with one another; as well, there have been a number of new people move into the area and programs like this would be valuable in helping get them connected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori Gall • Lori Gall • Lori Gall • Lori Gall • SSS/WB Team

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Association Reports (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vicki Ware asked for details on locations and timeframes for the camps and Superintendent Barrese said info. will be shared with SEAC once everything is in place Chris King commented on the importance of working to ensure that post-secondary students who are hired to run the programs are invested so that they hopefully return to the community to live and work once they've graduated • Trustee Robertson said Trustee Dave Shortt, who attended this evening's meeting as a guest, is on the Budget Committee; she said the power of the presentations and the level of engagement they've seen tonight is helpful as they plan for the future; Trustee Shortt agreed and added that any communication from members of SEAC is welcome, and he said that the Board relies on the Trustees appointed to SEAC to provide meaningful input; he attended this evening because he's trying to get out to all of the Board's Committees to better understand everything that is happening; Chris King said he is happy to see this level of Trustee engagement and the interest in SEAC's work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSS/WB Team
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 18, 2023 in the Upstairs Meeting Room at the Wallaceburg & District Museum, 505 King Street, Wallaceburg; it was noted that the location is accessible as there is an elevator to the 2nd Floor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malinda Little Moved, Wendy Smith Seconded "<i>That the meeting be adjourned</i>"; All in favour; the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. 	