

LAMBTON-KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
 ~ Thursday, April 22, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m. Via MS Teams ~

Present:	Rose Gallaway - St. Clair Child and Youth Services (Chair) Janet Barnes – Trustee (Vice-Chair) Derek Robertson - Trustee Chris King – Community Living, Sarnia-Lambton Wendy Smith – Community Living, Wallaceburg Steve Stokley – Community Living, Chatham-Kent Julia MacKellar – Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent Jean MacIntyre – “Member At Large”
Resource Staff:	Angie Barrese, Superintendent of Education Sandra Perkins, System Coordinator – Special Education Angie Moule, Special Education Coordinator Tara Mitchell, Special Education Coordinator Elizabeth Townsend, Lambton-Kent Elementary Administrators’ Association Jayson Campeau, Lambton-Kent Secondary Administrators’ Association Lori Gall, Recording Secretary
Regrets:	Sandra Pidduck – Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario Chris Moore, System Coordinator – Multidisciplinary Teams Melani Rich – Autism Ontario, Chatham-Kent and Sarnia Lambton Chapters Vicki Ware – First Nations Representative
Guest(s):	Candice Fung, Consultant – Kindergarten to Grade 12 Inclusive Diversity Michelle McLaughlin, ODSP Youth Collaborator, Employment Supports Pilot Project - Sarnia Lis Hoskins, LKDSB Attendance Officer Jeff Brosh, Elementary Assistive Technology Resource Teacher Dr. Cathy Martin, Walpole Island First Nation Trustee Jack Fletcher

Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action Items
Call to Order and Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair called the meeting to order Chris King Moved, Janet Barnes Seconded “<i>That the Agenda be approved</i>”; All in favour 	
Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trustee Barnes recited the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgment 	
Approval of Minutes of March 25, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steve Stokley Moved, Derek Robertson Seconded, “<i>That the Minutes of March 25, 2021 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 the March 25, 2021 meeting 	
Presentation – <i>Inclusive Diversity Learning</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandra Perkins introduced Candice Fung, the Board’s Inclusive Diversity Consultant for Kindergarten – Grade 12, noting that Candice is working to help alleviate oppression Candice said much of the work she does is intersectional because one thing relates to another, and because oppression comes in various forms; oppression can impact an individual’s opportunity to reach their full potential She is leading a book group and they’ve read ‘<i>So You Want to Talk about Race</i>’ by Ijeoma Oluo and ‘<i>White Fragility</i>’ by Robin Diangel; their next book will be ‘<i>Why I’m No Longer Talking to White People About Race</i>’ by Reni Eddo-Lodge She has delivered ‘Gender Identity Workshops’ focused on gender non-confirming, LGBTQ+ and transgender students She said they ran a Black Lives Matter initiative that was focused on anti-racism and during African-Heritage Month she provided in-service training for Principals, and provided resources for Teachers She is working as part of team to redevelop NBE3U curriculum which deals with issues of representation, voice, inclusion and knowledge production She is also working with staff to develop a new Black Studies course at CKSS for Grade 11 students 	

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Presentation – <i>Inclusive Diversity Learning</i> <i>(continued)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that anti-oppressive education is focused on removing barriers so that a “poor, queer, trans, differently abled women” feels free because until that women can feel free, no-one is free • She is working on a culturally responsive pedagogy project in conjunction with the Ministry of Education that will initially be delivered at 2 elementary schools and 1 secondary school • She is working on a demographic data pilot project; an identity-based survey will be created so they can analyze whether identifiers (such as ethnicity, race, religion, gender, etc.) have an effect on student success within our Board • She is working with Chatham-Kent to deliver training on systematic racism so that their Executive Committee could consider whiteness and the impact that whiteness has on others • She is part of an Anti-Racism Group that’s working with the Ontario Health Team • She has been leading Anti-Racism Workshops for The Municipality of Chatham-Kent; she noted that most of our knowledge is euro-centric, which means that white men have long been considered the thought and business leaders and that’s no longer today’s reality • Candice said she is currently writing Policies for the Board around persons that identify as trans-gender, and regarding use of the ‘n’-word in schools; she noted there’s an increase in hate speech and related actions so she’s trying to teach students that ‘words matter’ • Angie Barrese commented on the fact that sometimes people use language that’s not-inclusive; Candice agreed and noted the importance of educating people about the history of the words they’re using so they can think critically about word selection in the future • Trustee Jack Fletcher thinks Candice’s work with other agencies/organizations is important and will allow the Board’s students to eventually benefit from the shared knowledge and efforts; Candice agreed that it’s important to work together 	
Presentation – <i>The Ontario Disability Support Plan</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris King introduced Michelle McLaughlin, the ODSP Youth Collaborator, Employment Supports Pilot Project, Sarnia - West Region Area 1 • Michelle provided an overview of the ODSP Program which provides income support, benefits and employment supports to ensure people with disabilities can live independently and cited the eligibility requirements for those 18+ yrs. • She explained that they offer a work-related benefit/incentive of \$100, in addition to their monthly earnings, for those who have a positive net income • Michelle is involved with a Youth Project that supports individuals aged 14 – 29 (who identified themselves as a person with a disability) by searching out employment and helping each individual achieve their life goals • Their agency uses a collaborative case management approach in handling all aspects of a person’s life, including income and employment supports • Angie Barrese thanked Michelle for clarifying how individuals who earn money are impacted • Chris King suggested that a presentation of this nature be offered as a P.D. opportunity 	
2021 Special Education Plan Items to be Reviewed in April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Perkins outlined amendments made to the Special Education Plan and cited the reasons for any additions, deletions and/or updates • Chris King asked if there has been a reduction in the number of individuals involved in the Program Review Committee?; Sandra said others are included during the ‘information gathering’ piece, while the central table has fewer participants to allow for the right focus and rich information-sharing • Chris asked about the removal of Tutor Escorts; Sandra said they’re no longer included in the Special Education funding envelope; Angie Barrese said the First Nations receive that funding directly and have diversified the supports within their community; Sandra said Jordan’s Principle is a comparable program 	

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Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter, dated March 18, 2021, from Superior-Greenstone District School Board regarding online learning supports/universal design for learning was received; no action was taken 	
Association Reports, Other Business and Sharing of Best Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elizabeth Townsend commended staff on the most recent pivot to online learning; while her school doesn't have an ALLP room, she wanted the members to know EAs are going 'above and beyond' to support students with special needs • Angie Moule said the High Needs Team is focusing on Pre-School Intake to ensure Day 1 for each student is as smooth as possible in September • Angie Barrese said she's proud of how professional the Board's staff has been each time there is a need to pivot to virtual learning; she is hopeful that we'll be back to in school as we approach the end of the school year • Chris King said reps. from their agency met with Minister Marilyn Gladu relative to their Summer Employment Program and Summer Camp Programs and he's pleased to report that their staffing compliment for the programs increased by 100% • Chris also noted that Lambton Public Health will send teams to their congregate homes to give residents a vaccination • Sandra Perkins said self-contained programs are running, and families are grateful • Steve Stokley said they've applied for Summer Program funding and are waiting to hear back; Steve said Chatham-Kent Public Health vaccinated most of those living in their congregate care settings • Steve also said that the Chatham-Kent Teen Transition Fair is taking place, virtually • Wendy Smith said their clients have also been vaccinated and they, too, are waiting to hear about their Summer funding for their programs • Derek Robertson said the presentations were excellent, and he's happy to hear that Public Health is going to the congregate settings to immunize clients • Tara Mitchell is involved with SEA funding, and she noted that it's a busy/important time; this week new change tables were received by schools • Jack Fletcher said he's involved with OBSPA and they're focused on distance-learning, and ensuring decision-making responsibilities are not removed from local school boards • Jeff Brosh said the Assistive Technology Team is busy supporting staff; they're especially focused on trying to ready Grade 8s for secondary schools; their team is participating in professional development related to English-language learners and it's been beneficial • Rose Gallaway said they remain very busy; she appreciates the difficult but important job staff have in supporting students as they navigate this unprecedented time 	
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 13, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.; meeting location and details will be confirmed later • A MS Teams invitation will be sent out for those who want/need to attend virtually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All • Lori Gall
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m. 	