

LAMBTON-KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

~ Thursday, March 23, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. in The Library at Wallaceburg District Secondary School ~

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 Lori Richardson – Lambton County Developmental Services Malinda Little – Trustee (Vice-Chair) Kelley Robertson - Trustee Sarah Simmons – LINCK Child, Youth & Family Supports Alecia Atterbury – Parent Rep. for Julia MacKellar – Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent Melanie Coll – Pathways Health Centre for Children Trevor Aldous – Member-at-Large Michelle Holbrook – Sarnia Lambton Rebound Lori Marvin – St. Clair Child & Youth Services	
Regrets:	Melani Rich – Autism Ontario West Region Chris Moore, System Coordinator – Multidisciplinary Team Vicki Ware – Four First Nation (Education Authority) Representative Adam Davis, Student Support Services/Well-Being Coordinator Paul Gilbert, Student Support Services/Well-Being Coordinator Heather Touzin, Student Support Services/Well-Being Coordinator - Secondary	
Resource Staff:	Angie Barrese, Superintendent of Education – Student Support Services/Well-Being – Via MS Teams Carrielyn Smith, System Coordinator – Student Support Services/Well-Being Jeff Brosh, Student Support Services/Well-Being Coordinator Tara Mitchell, Student Support Services/Well-Being Coordinator Sheila Richardson, Student Support Services/Well-Being Coordinator Nick Nienhuis, L-K Elementary Administrators’ Rep. (Alternate Rep.) Marty Passmore, L-K Secondary Administrators’ Rep. Lori Gall, Recording Secretary	
Guests:	Jennifer Hunter, Coordinated Service Planner - Pathways Health Centre for Children Carla Dunn, LKDSB Educational Assistant Stacey Davis, LKDSB Educational Assistant Angela Richards, Trustee (Alternate Member of SEAC) Erica Hazzard, Supervisor of School-Based and Clinical Therapy Services Janet Barnes, LKDSB Trustee and Board Chair	
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, Lori Marvin Seconded <i>“That the Agenda be approved”</i>; All in favour 	
Territorial Land Acknowledgement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trustee Little shared a Territorial Land Acknowledgement 	
Approval of Minutes of February 16, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wendy Smith Moved, Steve Stokley Seconded <i>“That the Minutes of February 16, 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 February 16, 2023 	
Coordinated Service Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erica Hazzard introduced Jennifer Hunter, the Lead Coordinated Service Planner with Pathways Health Centre for Children Jennifer said the Coordinated Service Program (CSP) supports children and youth with complex needs by offering seamless supports The CSP Planner is someone that families can connect with and, by them being a part of the process, it helps families to feel heard and ensure that they don’t have to continually re-tell their story to staff at multiple agencies A diagnosis is not required to access Coordinated Service Planning but CSPs cannot duplicate existing processes 	

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Coordinated Service Planning (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Coordinated Service Planner’s role involves meeting with parents and the child/youth to discuss the child/youth’s strengths, needs, goals and priorities • Children and youth under the age of 18 and young people between the ages of 18 to 21, who remain in school, are eligible for CSP • The goals and the vision of the CSP should inform and be informed by planning for services, supports and special education, including the Individual Education Plan, and is used as one source of information to help inform education program planning, including special education programming and/or services and much-needed services • The Sarnia-Lambton CSP Referral Form and the process for referrals was discussed • Trevor Aldous asked if there is another program students can get involved in when they are beyond 21 years of age?; Jennifer said that adult services are still in development, but individuals and/or families in that situation in Sarnia-Lambton can connect with agencies such as Developmental Services Ontario, Community Living, and St. Francis Advocates; while there isn’t coordinated service planning available, there may be supports they or their family members can utilize • Trustee Richards asked if there are volunteers that help with travel?; Jennifer said there are taxi vouchers available, and the Inn of the Good Shepherd helps provide bus tickets and Noelle’s Gift sometimes provides financial support • Erica Hazzard thanked Jennifer for the information and stressed the importance of ensuring families feel heard 	
Trauma-Sensitive Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carrielyn Smith welcomed Carla Dunn and Stacey Davis, LKDSB Educational Assistants who also are members of the Board’s Trauma Team, to share information about efforts to support those experiencing trauma • Stacey began by saying that trauma is defined as an exceptional experience in which powerful and dangerous events overwhelm a person’s capacity to cope • The Trauma Team looks at behaviours using a ‘trauma lens’ and try to identify stressors in the student’s life that can be alleviated; it was noted that when a student is dysregulated, the team members seek to help the student get back to a calm state • Students need connection and, post-pandemic, the team is seeing a lot of connection-seeking behaviour, which is not always positive; Carla and Stacey discussed the ‘fight, flight and freeze’ behaviours that are a student’s response to stress • It was noted that, if a student is dysregulated, someone talking to them excessively is not helpful and can actually cause them to become <i>more</i> stressed • The three stages of supporting a student were identified as the <i>Three R’s</i>: regulate, relate and reason • The intention of trauma-sensitive practices is to support students by helping them to realize they can accomplish goals because they may feel like they cannot • The Board is offering trauma-sensitive training to staff at the Sarnia Education Centre on the April 28th PD Day • Gillian Hueniken asked if the Trauma Team works with the families and was told the Psychoeducational Clinicians and/or Social Workers work to support families • Lisa Veenendaal asked how many classroom teachers receive this training?; she was told that, pre-pandemic, many teachers participated in the training; as well, the membership learned that Trauma Team members attend staff meetings to share information and they also offer ‘lunch and learn’ sessions; the Team embeds little tidbits whenever and wherever they can; it was noted that carousel presentations are offered sometimes, and that brochures are available to staff • Carrielyn Smith said the Board is working on making trauma-sensitive practices a normal school culture in order to focus on positive and productive behaviour supports; she said there are ‘fostering resilience’ book clubs, and schools are developing networks to allow those who <i>are</i> learning about trauma-sensitive practices time to speak at school staff meetings • Trustee Little asked if students are connected to mental health supports?; Stacey said while they teach a bit about self-care, the focus is on teaching about trauma 	

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Trauma-Sensitive Practices (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angela Richards asked if there are brochures that are sent home?; Carla and Stacey said they've talked about developing tools, but try to 'stay in their lane' It was noted that the Parent Information Committee would likely be interested in hearing this presentation Carrielyn Smith thanked Carla and Stacey for their presentation and noted that the interest in the room speaks to the need; she noted that this team's work is critical; she said that the idea of 'good for all, but necessary for students experiencing trauma', 'connection-seeking', and 'pursuing calm' are all key to supporting those dealing with trauma; changing perceptions is so important, and the need to re-frame the brain to allow for connections that can help students realize 'they <i>can</i> do it' is so important to their overall health and well-being and to their future success 	
PAaC on SEAC Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ahead of the meeting, the membership was asked to review Sections 5 (SEAC Meeting Processes) and Section 6 (Local and Provincial Associations) of the PAaC on SEAC Effective Practices Handbook for SEAC Members Chris King asked the membership if they had any comments; there were none Chris said the SEAC Agendas are always provided in a timely manner and that the annual calendar which lays out the year is helpful in setting timelines The Chair noted that attendance is important in order to ensure we have quorum Chris would like some feedback on the meetings and suggested the members conduct a self-evaluation; staff will work on this 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angie/Lori
Special Education Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carrielyn Smith informed the members that the Special Education Plan is reviewed annually, and provided information about amendments proposed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Section 2.4 was amended in February but since that time Page 1 has been updated/replaced, so, that Section was brought back to SEAC for their awareness She noted that Section 2.7 and 2.9 as well as Appendices 2.8.1, 2.8.2, 2.8.3 and 2.9.1 were reviewed, but no changes were made It was noted that Section 2.8 is still being reviewed and is not ready to be presented No concerns were raised about the amendments to the Special Education Plan that were proposed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lori Gall
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair noted that the Penticton Herald had an article about the Board's SIP funding shortage, and said it was unusual for a paper from B.C. to do an article on an Ontario school board's funding challenges while local papers did not A letter, dated February 14, 2023, from the Near North District School Board regarding SIP funding shortfalls was received but no action was taken since the Board has recently corresponded with the Ministry on this topic on a couple of occasions In relation to the SIP underfunding issues, Chris King said that indicating the number of EAs supporting SIP students (alone) doesn't cover all of the staff needed because it doesn't take into account the staff that are required to cover for the EAs assigned to the SIP student when they're not able to be in the classroom 	
Association Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wendy Smith said Community Living Wallaceburg is once again sending out a newsletter and they'll also be distributing informational brochures; lamp-post flags will be visible throughout Wallaceburg for Community Living Month, and, on May 2nd a flag-raising will take at the Municipal Office Wendy said there will be a Movie Night at the Museum on May 12th, and Crystal Gage will be holding a concert at the Red Barn on May 25th She noted that applications for the <i>Emer & Dale Dudley Distinguished Community Service Award</i> are available; those who have demonstrated strong leadership in making their community more inclusive and improving the lives of people with intellectual disabilities can be nominated; the application deadline is April 6, 2023 And she said Community Living staff will be meeting with a new funder; they're looking forward to the changes that come with being a part of the employment service sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lori Gall

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Association Reports (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris King said Community Living Sarnia will be hiring 16 people for their employment transitions program; he noted that additional information about their agency will be forwarded to the membership by Lori Gall • Melanie Coll said Pathways is offering the iCan Bike Learn to Ride Program again this summer; that information will be shared with the membership by Lori Gall • Gillian Hueniken said Children’s Treatment Centre will be offering a similar program as well, and that information will also be shared with the membership by Lori Gall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori Gall • Lori Gall
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next meeting is planned for April 20, 2023 at St. Clair College Thames Campus to allow the members to learn more about the Board’s <i>Options Program</i> • The Chair asked about the meeting’s exact location at St. Clair College and Lori Gall said that the room number will be listed on the Agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Stokely Moved, Gillian Hueniken Seconded <i>“That the meeting be adjourned”</i>; All in favour; the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. 	