

**LAMBTON-KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
~ Thursday, May 13, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m. Via MS Teams ~

Present:	Janet Barnes – Trustee (Acting Chair) Melani Rich – Autism Ontario, Chatham-Kent and Sarnia Lambton Chapters Sandra Pidduck – Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario Chris King – Community Living, Sarnia-Lambton Wendy Smith – Community Living, Wallaceburg Julia MacKellar – Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent Jean MacIntyre – “Member At Large” Vicki Ware – First Nations Representative	
Resource Staff:	Sandra Perkins, System Coordinator – Special Education Tara Mitchell , Special Education Coordinator Jayson Campeau, Lambton-Kent Secondary Administrators’ Association Lori Gall, Recording Secretary	
Regrets:	Rose Gallaway - St. Clair Child and Youth Services (Chair) Steve Stokley – Community Living, Chatham-Kent Heather Touzin, Special Education Coordinator - Secondary Derek Robertson - Trustee Angie Barrese, Superintendent of Education	
Guest(s):	Sandy Scott-Hillier, Manager of Financial Services Jeff Brosh, Elementary Assistive Technology Resource Teacher	
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Details/Discussion</b>	<b>Action Items</b>
Call to Order and Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair called the meeting to order</li> <li>Wendy Smith Moved, Sandra Pidduck Seconded “<i>That the Agenda be approved</i>”; All in favour</li> </ul>	
Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trustee Barnes recited the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgment</li> </ul>	
Approval of Minutes of April 22, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chris King Moved, Wendy Smith Seconded, “<i>That the Minutes of April 22, 2021 be approved.</i>”; All in favour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lori Gall</li> </ul>
Business Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There was no business arising from the Minutes of the April 22, 2021 meeting</li> </ul>	
Presentation – <i>LKDSB 2021-2022 School Year Budget</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sandra Perkins introduced Sandy Scott-Hillier, the Board’s Manager of Financial Services, to share the <i>2021-2022 School Year Budget</i> presentation</li> <li>Sandy Scott-Hillier reminded the members that the majority of the Board’s funding is tied to enrollment, and noted that elementary enrollment estimates for 2021-2022 show 14,316 students, while secondary estimates reflect 6,822.50 students; she said the numbers factor in remote/virtual learners</li> <li>For the 2020-2021 school year, due to COVID-19, some families chose to Home-School their children which resulted in fewer special education students, and reduced funding being provided to the Board from the Ministry</li> <li>Sandy said that, for 2021-2022, while the Ministry seems to have moved money around from one funding envelope to another, the final funding allocation is not much different from 2020-2021’s budget amounts; overall the LKDSB is expecting an increase of \$463,148 in special education funding in 2021-2022, but she said that, because contract-related salaries are increasing by 1%, it really doesn’t leave much in the way of additional funding for the Special Education Department itself</li> <li>Modest increases to Special Education funds such as: the Special Education ‘Per Pupil Amount’; the ‘SEA Equipment Amount’; the ‘Special Incidence Portion Amount’; ‘ECPP’ funding and ‘Behavioural Expertise Amount’ were noted</li> <li>Sandy spoke about the various COVID-19 funding supports (i.e., additional staffing for smaller cohorts, enhanced cleaning measures, supports for mental health, and student assessments for well-being and equity, etc.) and noted that the Ministry has indicated that only half of the funds they’ve earmarked for these causes can be spent in the first half of the year and then, if the situation warrants it as the year progresses, the other half will be available for the Board to spend</li> </ul>	

Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action Items
Presentation – <i>LKDSB 2021-2022 School Year Budget</i> (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sandy noted that some funding, which has been ‘special project’ funds in previous years, will now become part of the Grants for Student Needs (which is the Board’s base budget)</li> <li>Julia McKellar asked about the Special Incidence Portion?; Sandra Perkins explained that SIP funding is claim-based financial support for students whose needs are so significant that 2 staff members are required to support them; a tremendous amount of record-keeping is required to prove that the student(s) needs this level of support and, while the Board does not recoup all of its costs through the SIP funding provided by the Ministry, it helps the bottom line</li> </ul>	
Presentation – <i>How we Can Help with School to Work Transition?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wendy Smith, Employment Services Manager at Wallaceburg Community Living, shared a presentation that highlighted their new 5-Year Strategic Plan focused on “Dream, Believe, Overcome and Achieve”; a video pinpointed the success and personal fulfillment that some of the individuals they support have experienced as a result of their programs and services</li> <li>Wendy spoke about their Respite and Respite Services, Educational Services, Intervenor Services, Facilitation and Planning Services, and more; she also referenced their Specialized Intensive Clinical Services, Safe Space, and Urgent Response After-Hours supports</li> <li>She described how, a few years ago, their agency created a School-to-Work Transition Program that focuses on an early intervention in order to build rapport with students who they can support when they’ve finished their schooling; she said that, because of COVID-19, they weren’t able to formalize or build upon the partnerships created but there have still been some successes</li> <li>Chris King asked about the early intervention?; Wendy said, for students in the ALLP Program, they connect with them after the student turns 18 in order to build a relationship over time that allows for a smooth transition into the working world when the student turns 21 and finishes their schooling</li> <li>Jeff Brosh commented on the value in allowing students to gain workplace experience to help them realize the importance of school; he asked about the number of people they support?; Wendy said that their caseload has grown exponentially, and she’s pleased to report that many individuals have found work</li> <li>Jean MacIntyre asked if there’s an opportunity for individuals to hire individuals for small jobs?; Wendy said it is possible, so long as the workers are paid minimum wage (currently \$14.25/hr.); Jean asked whether special insurance is required?; Wendy said that as long as the home-owner has third-party liability insurance, they’d be all set, noting that WSIB is not required because they agency covers that</li> </ul>	
2021 Special Education Plan Items to be Reviewed in May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sandra Perkins outlined amendments made to the Special Education Plan and cited the reasons for any additions, deletions and/or updates</li> <li>There were no questions about the changes made</li> </ul>	
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There was no correspondence submitted to SEAC</li> </ul>	
Association Reports, Other Business and Sharing of Best Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sandra Perkins said, beginning next week, a select group of students throughout the Board who were significantly challenged by the need to engage in a virtual classroom and who would do better with face-to-face learning (i.e., students with autism) will return to in-school classrooms; Melani Rich said this face-to face learning will be a great help to families who have been struggling with getting their child(ren) to engage in learning</li> <li>Sandra Pidduck said Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario (ESWO) developed a ‘Teacher’s Toolkit’ and it has recently been released for use</li> <li>She also reported that the Chatham-Kent Branch of ESWO is holding a drive-through Ribfest June 11 – 13<sup>th</sup> at Memorial Arena in Chatham; their agency will receive the funds donated at the gate (as people drive in to get their food); she will send a flyer to Lori to be shared with the Committee members</li> <li>Tara Mitchell reported that all of the Coordinators have been busy with Pre-School Intake meetings in order to ensure that the schools are ready to welcome their new students in September</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lori Gall</li> </ul>

Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action Items
Association Reports, Other Business and Sharing of Best Practices (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vicki Ware said they were able to help welcome a secondary student back for face-to-face in-person learning this week; they are now supporting 3 students for in-school learning</li> <li>• She added they're heading into a very busy time and, despite not being able to host awards banquets due to COVID-19, they'll find a way to hold a walk-through service; as well, she said they will be involved with the secondary school graduation of students attending LKDSB schools, such as Alexander Mackenzie</li> <li>• Melanie Rich said Autism Ontario is continuing to provide virtual opportunities and has also provided mail packets to support families</li> <li>• Lori Gall noted that Chris King had to leave the meeting early, but he provided a report that will be emailed to the membership for their information</li> <li>• Julia MacKellar said their organization is gearing up for summer programming; they are continuing to offer one hour of remote 1:1 tutoring a day (reading, writing, spelling, and/or math); she reported that they will be combining SOAR with a self-esteem program for students in Grades 6 – 10</li> <li>• She said they will also be continuing their 'Tilly's Tales' Reading Program, and she noted that they are trying to secure funding for craft supports</li> <li>• Jeff Brosh said the Assistive Technology Team (A.T. Team) is continuing to offer virtual meetings to support students needing to improve their skills so that, in September, the students are ready to learn in an in-school environment</li> <li>• Jeff noted that the Assistive Technology Team recently held a successful workshop with over 100 participants; Sandra Perkins expanded, explaining that, while students were involved with asynchronous learning, the Program Department hosted 50+ workshops for teachers and support staff and 800+ participants were in attendance across all of the workshops offered</li> <li>• Julia McKellar asked if the following could be considered as 'Future Agenda Items': 1) Funding for Early Reading for Kindergarten to Grade 3; 2) the Educator Guide; and, 3) the Remote Learning Guide for Students with Special Education Needs; Sandra said she's aware of some work that's being done, but said she'd have to bring information to a future meeting; Lori Gall noted that the June SEAC Meeting Agenda has been set and there are already three presentations lined up for that meeting; Sandra suggested that, in September when the 'Priority-Setting' exercise is underway, Julia ensures she identifies any areas of interest so that information can be gathered/shared at a SEAC Meeting during the 2021-2022 school year</li> <li>• Julia asked about how Grade 9 Math is going to be de-streamed?; Sandra said that item would also need to be identified during the 'Priority-Setting' exercise in September so a presentation can be shared during the 2021-2022 school year</li> <li>• Julia asked whether Summer Learning would be offered again this summer?; Sandra said the Board has applied for the funding and plans to offer programming in the same fashion as last summer but noted that, in addition, the 'regular' summer school programs will receive additional supports (such as EAs and/or Resource Teachers) to ensure student success</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lori Gall</li> <li>• Julia MacKellar</li> <li>• Julia MacKellar</li> </ul>
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• June 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.; meeting location and details will be confirmed later</li> <li>• A MS Teams invitation will be sent out for those who want/need to attend virtually</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All</li> <li>• Lori Gall</li> </ul>
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.</li> </ul>	