

LAMBTON-KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
~ Thursday, June 6, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m. at The Clubhouse at Baldoon ~

Present:	Rose Gallaway - St. Clair Child and Youth Services (Chair) Janet Barnes – Trustee (Vice-Chair) Sherry Nelson, Autism Ontario - Chatham-Kent and Sarnia Lambton Chapters Sandra Pidduck, Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario Steve Stokley – Community Living, Chatham-Kent Chris King – Community Living, Sarnia-Lambton Dawn Cartier – Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent Jean MacIntyre – “Member At Large”	
Regrets:	Wendy Smith – Community Living, Wallaceburg	
Absent:	Derek Robertson – Trustee Vicki Ware – First Nations Representative	
Resource Staff:	Angie Barrese, Superintendent of Education Sandra Perkins, System Coordinator of Special Education Adam Davis, Special Education Coordinator Angie Moule, Special Education Coordinator Lisa Valade, Special Education Coordinator Sheila Richardson, Special Education Coordinator Heather Touzin, Special Education Coordinator - Secondary Marty Passmore - Lambton-Kent Secondary Administrators’ Association Lori Gall, Recording Secretary	
Guests:	Jack Fletcher, Trustee Carrielyn Smith, Principal – Confederation Central Amy Maw, Teacher – Confederation Central Shannon Bird, Resource Teacher – London Road Kelly McArthur, Educational Assistant – London Road Jane Mulligan, Teacher – London Road Greta Saklak, Teacher – Options Program Tony Carrington, Graduate of the Options Program	
Members of the Public:	Chris Crawley, Graduate Student from Western University	
Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action Items
Call to Order and Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rose Gallaway called the meeting to order Chris King Moved, Sherry Nelson Seconded “<i>That the Agenda be approved</i>”; All in favour Since several guests were in attendance, everyone introduced themselves 	
Traditional Territorial Acknowledgement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trustee Barnes recited the Traditional Territorial Acknowledgment 	
Approval of Minutes of May 16, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sherry Nelson Moved, Jean MacIntyre Seconded “<i>That the Minutes of May 16, 2019 be approved.</i>”; All in favour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lori
Business Arising from the Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The slate of 2019-2020 SEAC meeting dates initially presented at the May Meeting were accepted Dawn Cartier asked about the budget reduction (due to declining enrolment) associated with the Differentiated Needs Amount, and asked whether it would impact the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT)?; Angie Barrese said the Technical Papers were received from the Ministry May 24th; since the MDT is not part of the GSN, the Board doesn’t currently know how much money will be received but, hopefully, that will be known soon and will determine how many staff will be part of the MDT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lori

Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action Items
Presentation – Confederation Central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheila Richardson introduced Carrielyn Smith - Principal, and Amy May - Teacher, from Confederation Central • A video was shown that highlighted the successful transition of two brothers, who have autism and who were previously home-schooled until this school year; the boys adjusted very well to attending school and participated in all sorts of activities, including field trips • Sandra Pidduck asked about the changes that the boys’ family experienced?; staff said there was a lot of anxiety about how the boys would manage at first, but they embraced the work that the staff is doing with their sons • Chris King asked about how the school is preparing to transition to a new teacher next year?; staff said that the boys will be in the same classroom, but there will be some work to do to ensure they’re comfortable with their new teacher • The highlight for the boys was making new friends; they were very proud of the bonds they made with their peers • Rose said that it’s a wonderful success story, and she congratulated the staff on all their hard work 	
Presentation – London Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheila Richardson introduced Shannon Bird – Resource Teacher, Kelly McArthur – EA, and Jane Mulligan – Teacher, who are all on staff at London Road School • They received a new grade 3 student a couple of years ago • The EA who works with the student said he’s flourished, and attributes his success to all of the resources that are available • The student is in Grade 5 now and, this year, he was able to accompany the class to Centennial Park for skating, and, he visited the downtown library without any incidents; staff have helped him to practice restaurant etiquette, taught him to garden, wash dishes and ride the bus, among other things • The ABA Specialist was a great resource to the staff because they learned that, by giving the student freedom to move around, it actually helped to slow him down • Many of the student’s accomplishments at school have carried over to his homelife and his Mother is very pleased with his progress • The boy’s classmates enjoy having him in the classroom and enjoy interacting with him; both staff and students have worked hard to help the student become more verbal, and they know he understands what they’re saying • The student learned to adapt to expectations and, as a result, there has been significant progress • Rose Gallaway said she knows the student and has seen the changes he’s made; she also knows that his Mom is grateful 	
Presentation – Options Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heather Touzin introduced Greta Saklak who is the Options Program Teacher • A video, highlighting what the Options Program is, was shown • A student who was a graduate of JMSS’s ABLE Program and moved into the Options Program after graduation was in attendance to speak to the members about his experience; he said that the Options Program taught him how to be independent, including: financial management, food preparation and managing his own living space, among other things • Angie Barrese asked the student what he’s been doing since last year when he came to speak to SEAC?; he said he continues to enjoy his job and has been promoted from the role of Custodian to the Funeral Director’s Assistant, which includes greeting the family and friends of the deceased • Dawn asked how many people apply to the Options Program each year?; Greta said there are about 18 applicants, but only 15 are selected to participate 	

Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action Items
Spec. Ed. Report Items for Review in June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Perkins spoke about Appendix 1.1, citing the fact that any amendments that were made throughout the school year have been captured; she also noted that Appendix 1.1 must be approved by the membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sandra Pidduck Moved, Janet Barnes Seconded that <i>“That all of the updates to the Special Education Plan presented and approved at the SEAC Meetings held on: January 17, March 21, April 18, May 16, and June 6, 2019 be approved.”</i>; All in favour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the May 16th meeting correspondence was received from the Simcoe-Muskoka Catholic District School Board regarding “Bill 64: Noah & Gregory’s Law – Transition to Adult Development Services & Supports” and, at that time, SEAC directed staff to draft a letter to the Ministry of Education supporting the timely approval of Bill 64 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ After reviewing the letter that was drafted, the members of SEAC approved its dissemination to the Minister, et al • Correspondence was received from the Ottawa-Carleton Catholic District School Board regarding changes to the Ontario Autism Program; this item was discussed, but no action was taken • Correspondence was received from the Peel District School Board regarding changes to: SIP allocation amounts; local priorities funding; and, reductions to teacher numbers; this item was discussed but no action was taken • Correspondence was received from Brant Haldimand Norfolk outlining concerns related to the provincial funding model for autism services; this item was discussed but no action was taken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori
Association Reports, Other Business and Sharing of Best Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Pidduck said they had an excellent and educational dinner event last week • Angie Barrese noted that the department is in the process of rebuilding teams and getting supports in place for the Fall • Chris King said that the Mayor’s Luncheon was well-attended, and, 850 students from feeder schools attended an event at GLSS • Chris said he will be part of a panel discussion at an event hosted by the Family Support Network for Employment; he’ll highlight several of their programs • He noted that, unfortunately, their federal funding has been reduced and they’ll have to work hard to make up the shortfall • Angie Moule said that targeted training is being held for schools teams to learn about autism; an Autism Spectrum Disorder Module developed by a staff member and is being taught • Sandra Perkins said that in the summer there will be specialized programs offered to youth in Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton • She reported that students in our schools who use assistive tech. were more successful in every category of the Grade 3 and 6 EQAO testing, and said it speaks to the fact that our students are well-trained in how to use the tools they’ve been given to benefit their learning and enhance their knowledge • Chris Moore said that the first year of the MDT has been an opportunity to learn and grow • The 6 social workers that were hired with provincial funding have been working the secondary schools and have serviced hundreds of students already which demonstrates the need • Heather Touzin said the Coordinators attended a conference recently and they realized that our Board is more connected to Community Living within our communities than is the case in other communities • Dawn Cartier said they’re still taking registrations for their summer programs • She knows that SEAC will be reviewing the LD Program in the 2019-2020 school year and she said they’d like someone from their organization to be a part of that review process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spec. Ed. Team

Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action Items
Association Reports, Other Business and Sharing of Best Practices (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Stokely said that he's grateful for the partnerships that are in place with the Board • He reported that their Summer Employment Program budget was cut, but they're going to keep the program going • Lisa Valade said that at the regional conference the Coordinators attended they heard Kelly Rogers, who is an expert on autism strategies, and it was excellent • Sheila Richardson shared stats about the enrichment team's work and the number of students they supported this school year • She said June is busy because they meet with agency partners to prepare to welcome new students to Junior Kindergarten or Kindergarten • Adam said that because Speech and Language Service needs are complex, there's a backlog in having assessments completed; Provincial funding is allowing community partners to help the Board in reducing this backlog • Jack said that while all of the Board's Committees have value, he feels that SEAC has special value, and he wishes more Trustees would attend the meetings • Jack thinks staff training staff is an excellent idea, and that the cooperation the department has with local agencies is very important • Rose said that their Executive Director retired and Julie Carter (formerly of CAS) will assume the Executive Director's role • Dawn Cartier asked if she could get more information on exclusions?; Angie said the Board does not have any exclusions at all 	
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 19, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at The Clubhouse at Baldoon, 7018 Dufferin Avenue, Wallaceburg <i>(Note: This is a change of venue from what had initially been stated.)</i> • The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All