

LAMBTON-KENT DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

~ Thursday, October 17, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m. at The Clubhouse at Baldoon, Wallaceburg ~

Present:	Janet Barnes – Trustee (Vice-Chair) Sherry Nelson – Autism Ontario - Chatham-Kent and Sarnia Lambton Chapters Steve Stokley – Community Living, Chatham-Kent Chris King – Community Living, Sarnia-Lambton Wendy Smith – Community Living, Wallaceburg Vicki Ware – First Nations Representative Julia MacKellar – Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent	
Regrets:	Derek Robertson – Trustee Jean MacIntyre – “Member At Large” Rose Gallaway – St. Clair Child and Youth Services (Chair) Sandra Pidduck – Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario	
Resource Staff:	Angie Barrese, Superintendent of Education Sandra Perkins, System Coordinator of Special Education Chris Moore, System Coordinator – Multi-Disciplinary Teams Lisa Valade, Special Education Coordinator Adam Davis, Special Education Coordinator Elizabeth Townsend, Lambton-Kent Elementary Administrators’ Association Jayson Campeau, Lambton-Kent Secondary Administrators’ Association Lori Gall, Recording Secretary	
Guest(s):	Lis Hoskins, LKDSB Attendance Officer	
Agenda Item	Details/Discussion	Action Items
Call to Order and Approval of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trustee Janet Barnes, Vice-Chair of SEAC, called the meeting to order and shared the regrets submitted for the October meeting, including those of the Chair Sherry Nelson Moved, Wendy Smith 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 September 19, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris King Moved, Steve Stokley Seconded “<i>That the Minutes of September 19, 2019 be approved</i>”; All in favour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lori
Business Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no business arising from the Minutes of September 19, 2019 	
Presentation – LKDSB Climate Survey Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superintendent Barrese informed SEAC that a Climate Survey is conducted every two years; the most recent survey was held in April 2019, and completed by students in Grades 4 – 6; Grade 7 – 8, and Grade 9 - 12 She noted that the area Health Unit’s participation on the Committee resulted in questions related to: healthy living, health eating, activity levels, and mental health also being included in the questionnaire Last time only 52 parents/guardians completed the survey and this time there were 496 parents/guardians who participated Wendy Smith asked about the low number of Grade 7 – 8 participants?; Superintendent Barrese said that it is typically the group with the lowest engagement response The data from this year’s survey represents the voices of over 8,350 students The members broke into groups to review high-level survey data and discuss some possible reasons for the response percentages tied to each category/question Wendy asked what happens when a student is in crisis?; Superintendent Barrese said that, as educational partners, the Board has a well-defined role in helping to build on ongoing supports, and make referrals/connections Chris Moore said the social workers in the secondary schools help students who are struggling; they are called to assist a student by a member of the Multi-Disciplinary Team or the School Guidance Counsellor or Resource Teacher A Brief Intervention of School Clinicians (BRISC) assessment may be completed and if more support is needed, the student is connected to agencies that can assist them 	

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Presentation – LKDSB Climate Survey Results (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angie said the Executive Team is focused on what’s happening Board-wide while each school will drill down into their own survey data • While all aspects of the survey are important, the area of focus at the school-level will be on whether students: <i>Feel a Sense of Belonging at School; Feel that Their School is Welcoming; and Feel There is One Caring Adult in the School They Trust</i> • Angie asked the members to share information they may have regarding how they make their clients feel welcome, so that it can be shared with the schools • Janet Barnes asked about the ratio of staff to students?; Superintendent Barrese said the staff represent about 25 – 30% of the total number of students • Chris King complimented administration for the way they’ve worked to increase participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All
Special Education Info. (2019-2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Perkins referred to the ‘Department Responsibilities’ and the ‘Coordinators’ School Responsibilities’ for 2019-2020 that were included in the Agenda Package • She noted that, because some of the Superintendent’s Portfolios changed, there were changes to some of the Coordinator’s responsibilities as a result • She said there were changes to the Coordinator’s School Responsibilities as a result of changes to Superintendent’s Family of Schools; Coordinators are getting used to their new schools • Sandra said staff resources are balanced around each Coordinator in keeping with their workload 	
Memo to SEAC re: 2018-2019 Special Equipment Amount (SEA) Claims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Perkins referred to the memo summarizing the 2018-2019 SEA Claims • She said that the Board pays the first \$800 for special equipment needs for any exceptional pupils, and submits a claim to the Ministry for the balance of any costs incurred 	
LKDSB Annual Accessibility Report – September 2018 – August 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Perkins said the Board’s Annual Accessibility Report must be submitted to the Ministry of Education; Superintendent Barrese said a Motion would need to be made to reflect the Committee’s approval • Janet Barnes Moved: <i>“That the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Lambton-Kent District School Board’s Annual Accessibility Report for September 2018 – August 2019.”</i>; Wendy Smith Seconded; All in Favour • Chris King asked if all schools are wheelchair accessible, and if some schools have more than one accessible door?; Angie Barrese said every school has at least one wheelchair-accessible entrance, while some may have more than one • Chris has found that some of the accessible door locations are not convenient and/or located by an accessible parking area; as well, Chris asked about the makeup of the Committee, and who does inspections?; Angie and Sandra said they believe it’s staff from Building Services that do the inspections; Chris asked if they seek input from individuals with disabilities?; Angie/Sandra said they would have to look into that and will report back 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori • Angie/ Sandra
Summary of Priority-Setting Exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angie said that all of the priorities have been summarized and organized, but the Special Education Team is still scheduling presentation dates, so the information will be emailed to the Committee prior to the next meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spec. Ed. Team
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julia MacKellar noted that the draft letter to the Ministry in support of the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board’s correspondence, outlining concerns about average class sizes and mandatory e-learning, has an error -- it should say class sizes have <i>increased</i>, not decreased; the letter was approved, as amended; Lori will make the change and send it out • A letter, dated August 26, 2019, from Ecole Catholiques Centre-Est regarding class sizes and mandatory e-learning was received but no action was taken because this issue is already covered in the letter SEAC is submitting to the Ministry on those topics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori

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Correspondence (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three letters, all dated September 23, 2019, were received from Conseil Scolaire Catholique Providence regarding: Bill 44 and fetal alcohol syndrome; funding for students with autism; and, class sizes and mandatory e-learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action was taken in response to the letter regarding Bill 44 and fetal alcohol syndrome, or the letter regarding funding for students with autism • Because the issue of average class sizes and mandatory e-learning was dealt with in the letter SEAC is submitting to the Ministry, no further action was taken 	
Association Reports, Other Business and Sharing of Best Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Stokley said the Johnathan Daniel Stone Fund is accepting applications from November 1 – 30; he’ll send the info. and Superintendent Barrese said it will be shared with the Resource Teachers • Chris King said they recently raised \$38,000 through an event, as well, their community’s “100 Women Who Care” group gave their organization some money and, with those combined funds, they purchased a wheelchair accessible van • He reported that their Annual General Meeting will be held in November • Sandra Perkins said the Ministry asked for a proposal to run the Options Program in Sarnia-Lambton and the Board is hopeful to be able to choose one student and one teacher to begin with and then scale up a program in the North • Lisa Valade said that she and Adam Davis will be attending a Ministry meeting to learn about what’s new with SEA equipment • Vicki Ware said Aamjiwnaang hired a Communication Disorder Assistant at their child care centre to help students preparing to transition to Board schools, and, she also noted that they have an Occupational Therapist on staff • Adam Davis said that Otis-Lennon School Ability Testing (OLSAT) is under way; the Enrichment Team is also keeping track of Lexia licenses (which is an online reading program that helps the Teacher identify areas they can focus on to help students who are struggling) • Julia MacKellar said on October 22nd they’re holding an IEP Information Night; this will benefit parents who are intimidated to speak to someone at the school • Sherry Nelson said the Toronto Argonauts are hosting a game with some of the funds being directed to Autism Ontario; she will provide information to be shared • Chris Moore said that the Multi-Disciplinary Team is dissecting the Climate Survey results in order to reach out to students that may need help • Angie Barrese said that she and Katie Colameco will be in Toronto next week to learn about provincial mental health strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Stokely • Sherry Nelson
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. 	