



SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Community Living Chatham-Kent	Kayla Murphy / Steve Stokley
Community Living Sarnia-Lambton	Brenda Roby
Community Living Wallaceburg	Ryan Allaer / Patricia Peters
Suicide Prevention Committee Sarnia-Lambton	Michelle Parks
Pathways Health Centre for Children	Melanie Coll
Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent	Gabriela Todino
Down Syndrome Association of Lambton County	Garth Lepine
Trustees	Jennifer McCann Brenda Rumble
Principal/Vice Principal Representatives	Tiffany Clarke (VP) Mike Giroux
Board Advisors	Lisa Demers Jennifer Morrow Terri Rawlings Chris Preece Lisa Thompson-Power Hollie Sparling
Guests	Scott Johnson Martin Smit
Regrets	Brenda Rumble Kayla Murphy

## CALL TO ORDER

### 1. Welcome & Opening Prayer

### 2. Adoption of SEAC Agenda - April 15, 2024 (Motion)

**Motion By** Brenda Roby and seconded by Michelle Parks to adopt the SEAC Agenda of Monday, April 15, 2024. **Carried.**

### 3. Review of SEAC Minutes - March 18, 2024 (Motion)

**Motion By** Brenda Roby and seconded by Garth Lepine to adopt the SEAC Minutes of Monday, March 18, 2024. **Carried.**

## A. PRESENTATIONS

### 1. Student Achievement Plan

Scott Johnson

- Scott shared the change in Ministry process for board reporting. Every board in the province must do this report on these same criteria. There are 14 indicators provided by the Ministry. Comparisons are made between the 73 school boards on the 14 criteria.
- The Ministry priorities are: Achievement of Learning Outcomes in Core Academic Skills, Preparation of Students for Future Success, and Student Engagement & Well-being.
- Our board Strategic Plan will remain in place and will remain our priority along with the work teachers do with, and for students, every day.
- Much of the data is based on grades 3, 6, and 9 EQAO scores from all school boards.
- The Ministry will ask what the board plan is to improve their scores if they fall below provincial standards. As of April 2, 2024, SCCDSB has developed and posted on the board website a plan to improve where our scores are below Ministry standards. There are Action Plan items to support each of the Ministry priorities.
- The Ministry will provide new data to the board twice per year. The Director will share the new data as it is received.

### 2. LD@Home

Martin Smit

- Martin is an educational consultant for LDAO, LD@School, and LD@Home.
- The Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO) is a registered charity dedicated to improving the lives of children, youth, and adults with learning



disabilities. LDAO offers many resources, services, information, venues, and products designed to help people with LDs and ADHD, as well as parents, teachers, and other professionals.

- LD@School includes a website as well as the Educator's Institute (summer conference). LD@School provides Ontario educators with information, resources, and research related to teaching students with LDs. The website features resources and professional development materials in a variety of formats. LD@School highlights evidence-based, evidence-informed, and practice-informed approaches, practices, and strategies that can be put directly to use in the classroom.
- LD@Home was created to help bring resources to Ontario households impacted by learning disabilities. Information is geared to families. Resources often include transcripts and other materials. Connections and information on local LD chapters and partner organizations are shared.
- All resources at LD@School and LD@Home are free to use and are translated to French.
- Martin can be reached at [Martin@ldao.ca](mailto:Martin@ldao.ca)

## C. ASSOCIATION REPORTS

### 1. Community Living Chatham-Kent

Steve Stokley

- May is Community Living month. All activities and events can be found on the web site.
- On May 2, 2024 at 11:00 am, the flag raising event will take place at the Civic Centre with the Mayor in attendance. There will also be an awards presentation and a BBQ.

### 2. Community Living Sarnia-Lambton

Brenda Roby

- A CICE presentation took place sharing information about CL employment services and summer employment transitions. A follow-up presentation will take place to assist these students with mock job interviews.
- On March 12, 2024, the Sarnia-Lambton Workforce Development Board presented their recommendations to the community on best practices when it comes to inclusive hiring, specifically when hiring job seekers with disabilities.
- On March 21, 2024, Employment Transitions and jobPath staff completed Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity training offered by the Windsor Regional Employment Network. The training, offered by Tana Turner of the Turner



Consulting Group, provided us with perspectives and insight on unconscious bias and stereotypes, and how these may affect our abilities as service providers.

- Our most recent jobPath group is full and began on April 2, 2024.

### **3. Community Living Wallaceburg**

Patricia Peters

- Box Lunch event is this week. It is being held for the first time since 2018.
- National Volunteer week is this week and is being celebrated.
- May is Community Living month. Things to watch for are: banners, radio ads, and buttons. All are welcome to the raising the flag event at the Wallaceburg municipal center where awards will be presented among other things.
- A memorial garden service will occur where they will take the time to remember those they've lost.
- May 31, 2024 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, a dance at the Wallaceburg Legion will take place.
- In June 2024, the annual golf tournament will take place. All information can be found on the website.

### **4. Suicide Prevention Committee Sarnia-Lambton**

Michelle Parks

- Currently exploring a new funding model. They are losing a coordinator position as a result of the lost funding.
- Mental Health Week event - Brian Knowler is speaking on PTSD and trauma. The event takes place on Monday, May 13, 2024 from 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm.

### **5. Pathways Health Centre for Children**

Melanie Coll

- Recognizing volunteers and the service they provide at a ceremony in Sarnia

### **6. Learning Disabilities Association of Chatham-Kent**

Gabriela Todino

- There are three types of B.E.S.T. summer programs; 2-week programs that will run from July 22-August 1, 2024; all are fee-for-service.
- The programs will run for half a day and are for social skills, tutoring, and SOAR which is a secondary school preparation course for students in grades 7 to 9.
- Social skills and tutoring sessions will run Monday through Thursday mornings or afternoons, for different groups of children: Kindergarten to grade 4 and grade 4 to grade 8.
- A full day camp is possible when two half day sessions are attended on the same day for the 2 weeks.
- All information can be found on the website [www.ldack.org](http://www.ldack.org)



## **7. Down Syndrome Association of Lambton County** Garth Lepine

- March 21, 2024 - World Down Syndrome Day. Many events were held province-wide.
- The association Facebook page shares new ads highlighting the many abilities of people with Down Syndrome.

## **D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

## **E. NEW BUSINESS (Motion)**

## **F. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **1. Mental Health and Wellbeing Updates** Chris Preece

- April 4, 2024 all principals were trained in "Leading Mentally Healthy Schools 2.0." As a result, a small group of principals will now come together to brainstorm how the information can be shared across the system.
- Mental Health Week is the week of May 6-10, 2024. The theme is "Healing through Compassion"
- School-wide events focused on this theme will take place across the system.
- Summer work will be funded to provide mental health support to students throughout the summer months. The plan is for SEL learning camps to occur, however, it will be based on the funding received for summer programming.
- Three Oaks Cabin is a retreat centre for first responders and rural farmers struggling with mental health and wellbeing. A planning visit will occur for the purpose of exploring how we can collaborate and work together to provide this type of service.
- A provincial grant of \$25,000 is available and Three Oaks Cabin has submitted their name with the hope of being awarded the grant. Please take a minute to vote for Three Oaks. You will have to vote for each of the 4 provincial finalists. Voting closes tonight! <https://agro.basf.ca/growinghome/voting.html>

### **2. Staffing Updates** Jen Morrow

- Terri Rawlings is retiring as of May 31, 2024. Katie Papanayotou will step into the consultant role effective June 3, 2024.



### 3. Project Search Updates

Jen Morrow

- A press release today announced the Open House to be held on April 16, 2024 at the Jerry McCaw Family Centre YMCA. The open house will launch Project Search, which is a 10-month program that takes place entirely at this workplace in Sarnia.
- Our team met with YMCA staff, saw the classroom, and were made aware of job opportunities. The program will host 6-8 students, 18 - 21 years of age with communication, developmental, or physical disabilities. The program will provide the students with the opportunity to enter the workforce upon completion of high school.
- Application forms will be available at the open house. The start date for Project Search is September 3, 2024.

### G. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

- Toured the new Gregory Hogan Catholic School and had the last Board meeting at the school
- Two new Student Trustees will be starting: Matt Moss from St. Patrick's and Layla Hashim from UCC.
- Scott Johnson, Director of Education, shared the new Student Achievement Plan with the group.

### H. QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### I. PRESENTATIONS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

### J. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Monday, May 13, 2024

Monday, June 17, 2024

### K. CLOSING PRAYER

### L. ADJOURNMENT (Motion)

**Motion By** Melanie Coll and seconded by Brenda Roby to adjourn the SEAC meeting of Monday, April 15, 2024 at 6:45 p.m. **Carried.**