

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

October 3, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Catholic Education Centre, Wallaceburg – St. Louis Room

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Community Living, Wallaceburg

Derek McGivern

Community Living, Chatham-Kent

Derek Jane

Epilepsy Support Centre

Sharon Berry Ross

Lambton County Developmental Services Group

Adrian Vermeiren

VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children

Kathy Arcuri-Arnott

Trustees

John Van Heck
Linda Ward

Principals Representatives

Maureen Cecile
Juli Faubert

Board Advisors

Deb Crawford
Lisa Demers
Janet Boyle
Lisa Thompson-Power
Renée Zarebski

Regrets: Derek McGivern, Kathy Arcuri-Arnott, Linda Ward, Lisa Thompson-Power

John VanHeck
SEAC Chairperson

Deb Crawford
Board Advisor

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Welcome
2. Prayer
3. Addition to the Agenda – None
4. Adoption of Agenda

<p>MOTION BY: Derek Jane and seconded by Sharon Berry Ross to adopt the agenda.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

5. Review of Minutes from May 16, 2011.

<p>MOTION BY: Derek Jane and seconded by Sharon Berry Ross to accept the minutes from the May 16, 2011 SEAC meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
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B. PRESENTATIONS

1. Student Support Leadership Initiative M. McCrae
This is the 5th year for this initiative. This was developed in response to Safe Schools in response to repeat offenders. Request for MCYS and EDU to work together to support students who were being suspended. The goal is: to combine discipline with educational plans. Community partners were designated.

For Phase 2 – the number of community partners was expanded. Our community had many well established partnerships and protocols in place.

In Phase 1 – identified gaps in services across the district, make recommendations for specific pd and provide training.

In Phase 2 – included Joint Professional development – school boards and community agencies. Also attention given to ensure services to our community are aligned with what other communities receive. Resources were provided for schools and agencies. A number of books were purchased on a variety of mental health issues – these are available to schools and parents.

This year – Public Health and Parks and Recreation will be included. Statistics on suicide and mental health needs in the community were shared.

2. Positive Behaviour Support R. Zarebski
A presentation was provided on School Wide Positive Behaviour Supports. This is currently being implemented in three of our schools: Holy Trinity Catholic School, St. Matthew Catholic School and St. Joseph Catholic School in Chatham.

The Positive Behavior Supports model supports a shift in the school culture to reinforce behaviours that are desirable. Skills are taught to the students and described in observable and measureable language. A video was shared that was created by students at St. Joseph Catholic School in Chatham.

C. ASSOCIATION REPORTS

Community Living Chatham Kent

Derek Jane

Respect Tour occurring again this year. October 27th at 6:00 p.m.– spaghetti dinner at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School to kick off the tour. This will be the last year for the Respect Tour. Summer Programs for teens was very successful.

Single point of access centres have started up for Developmental Services.

Main office is in London. Psychological assessment must be provided for new applicants to developmental services.

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. None

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Special Education Report 2011 (on disk) L. Demers
Lisa provided a copy of the Special Education Binder on a CD.
2. SEAC Building Capacity Survey Results L. Demers
www.seac-learning.ca/ - great website for SEAC members.
A survey was distributed to all chairs of all SEACs in Ontario.
52 SEACs responded to the survey.
Different areas of the SEAC survey results were reviewed.
SEAC members were asked to review and bring feedback to our next meeting.

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. OPTIONS Program R. Zarebski

Update was provided on the Options Program. Students have benefitted from a variety of Co-op placements. There are currently 13 students in the program. Options is hosted at St. Clair College, Thames Campus, where the students have access to the college facility.
2. TEACCH Training R. Zarebski

Two staff from Ursuline College Catholic Secondary School attended TEACCH training this summer. TEACCH is intensive training that relates to the support of students in learning to function independently in the classroom.
3. Summer Institute Training - Geneva Centre for Autism Lisa and Renee

Lisa acknowledged the work of the team from the SCCDSB in presenting to the Geneva Centre over the summer. A number of boards have been in contact as a result of the presentation. Twelve staff from the board attended the training as participants at the London site.
4. Summer Institute Training - ASIST L. Demers

SSLI funded the ASIST Training. Applied Suicide Intervention training – principals, vice-principals and PRTs attended. Training was provided by CMHA. Feedback was very positive from staff who attended. Focuses on the “look fors” for students who are expressing thoughts of suicide/depression. Staff learned that they have to be caring adult, listen to students and refer them to agencies where they need to be seen.

5. Police protocol L. Demers

Ann Sutton, Superintendent of Education, SCCDSB and Dave Dooey, Superintendent of Education, LKDSB, worked closely with police departments to develop a protocol when incidents occur. Protocol is in place to ensure we comply with ministry expectation to work together to keep people safe. The ministry provided a provincial template to assist with planning. This was a wonderful collaborative partnership.

6. Risk and Threat Assessment L. Demers

Lisa attended a three day training in Kingston last year. Staff who attended heard Kevin Cannon. Decision was made to bring Kevin Cannon to this area to speak. Last week 120 people were trained with representation from SCCDSB, LKDSB and community partners.

Kevin is an expert in the area of risk assessment. Kevin believes response to risk and threat must be a community approach. 40 staff from each board attended as well as 40 individuals from the community. All senior administration from SCCDSB attended. Result will be the development of a protocol for response to risk and threat. Kevin in his investigation into various events highlighted the importance of early intervention for these types of individuals.

Next protocol meeting is set for Friday of this week, October 7, 2011.

7. Special Education Report 2011 L. Demers

Recommendation is to review sections of the report at SEAC meetings.

8. Bridges Out of Poverty J. Boyle

Was offered in June to EAs and will be offered to PRTs in December. Janet shared the evaluation surveys. Gayle Montgomery was the presenter. Gayle provided strategies for schools in working with families living in poverty. Comments in the feedback survey were shared.

September 26th, PD day for EAs – featured Sarah Cannon in the morning who spoke on Children’s Mental Health from the Family Perspective. In the afternoon Dr. Phil Ricciardi spoke on the topics of ADHD and ODD.

EAs identified future training opportunities they are interested in.

9. 2011-12 EA PD Planning J. Boyle

EA training plan for the 2011-2012 was shared with SEAC.

Joint PD day is planned for November 25, 2011 – topic for the morning is **Live Well and Laugh Lots**. The afternoon will be menu of workshops for staff to choose from.

Joint PD days provide the opportunity for collaboration and to bring in high level speakers.

Dr. Corey Saunders will be presenting on the June 11th PD day.

G. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

None

H. QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None

I. **NEXT MEETING DATE – November 7, 2011**

J. **AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Feedback from the SEAC Survey

Special Education Report 2011

K. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY: Sharon Berry Ross and seconded by Derek Jane to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

CARRIED