

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, September 17, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Catholic Education Centre, Wallaceburg – St. Louis Conference 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

Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County

Kim D'Hooghe

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:

Deb Crawford, Maureen Cecile, Linda Ward

Absent: Adrian Vermeiren

John VanHeck
SEAC Chairperson

Deb Crawford
Board Advisor

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Welcome – Members introduced themselves and welcomed our new SEAC member.
2. Prayer
3. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION BY: Derek McGivern to adopt the agenda and seconded by
Derek Jane to adopt the agenda.

CARRIED

4. Review of Minutes from June 4, 20112

MOTION BY: Derek McGivern to accept the Minutes from the June 4, 2012 SEAC
meeting and seconded by
Sharon Berry Ross..

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. Prayer Service Special Education Team
2. Imagine Program J. Slater

Jodi Slater provided an overview of the Imagine Program. Students with the same age and ability level are brought together once per month. The profiles of different gifted learners were outlined. The goal of Imagine is to connect, communicate and collaborate with others. Students attend 8 days over the school year. The Imagine Program is offered both in Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton. A screening process is in place – it is administered to all grade 4 students across the district. Students who meet the criteria are invited to attend the program. The Imagine program is for elementary students. Packages are provided to secondary students with a variety of enrichment resources.

C. ASSOCIATION REPORTS

1. Community Living, Wallaceburg D. McGivern
No report
2. Community Living, Chatham-Kent D. Jane
No report
3. Epilepsy Support Centre S. Berry Ross
School referrals are coming in for presentations.
4. VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children K. Arcuri-Arnott
No report
5. Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County K. D’Hooghe
No report

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. SEAC Meeting Dates L. Thompson-Power
10 meetings have been scheduled and the list was distributed. Meetings are held on the third Monday of every month.

MOTION BY: Kathy Arcuri-Arnott to cancel the December 17, 2012 SEAC meeting date.
Seconded by Derek McGivern

CARRIED

2. New Membership List J. Boyle
The membership and associations on SEAC were reviewed.

3. SEAC Parent Information Sessions R. Zarebski
- Proposed focus – Mental Health is on Mental Health.
 - Tentative dates: October 17th, October 18th and November 1st
 - Please advise Renee if you are interested in participating in a planning subcommittee.
 - Sessions will be offered in Chatham-Kent and Sarnia Lambton.
 - Typically about 2 hours. Possible connect with CMHA.
 - Sessions are open to all parents and community agencies.
 - Suggest that families advise their school principal if there are barriers for them attending.
 - Will investigate whether we can support families who require any additional support – i.e. childcare/transportation
 - Personal invitations by members/schools create a welcoming atmosphere for families.

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Correspondence L. Demers
Letter from Wellington CDSB – to Minister Broton.
- The letter outlined the need to recognize professional development for teachers in the area of special education. The letter is requesting a mandatory special education course for Faculties of Education.

MOTION BY: Derek McGivern, that the St. Clair Catholic District School Board compose a similar letter of support for a mandatory special education course at Faculties of Education to be sent to Minister Broton.
Seconded by Kathy Arcuri-Arnott.

CARRIED

Letter from Upper Grand Board

- Requesting for more information on Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) and a closer look at barriers for young people transitioning to adult services. DSO has centralized services and has very specific requirements in terms of eligibility for services.
 - **Action:** Suggest a possible presentation at Parent Information Session/SEAC.
2. Regional Autism Providers of Ontario L. Demers
- Defer to next meeting
3. Special Education Report L. Demers
The Ministry of Education requires that the Board's Special Education Report be on our Board's Website by September 1st.
- The Director has signed off that requirements have been met.
 - The entire report is available on the website
 - The Committee agreed that paper copies would not be needed.
 - The Special Education Report will be reviewed throughout the year.

- Components updated are indicated in the plan.
- SEAC was thanked for all their work in reviewing and revising the Special Education Report.

G. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

- There have not been any official Board Meetings this year.
- The Board is working on the plans for the new St. Patrick's High School.
- There is a lot of discussion on teacher contracts and Ministry direction.

H. QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

I. NEXT MEETING DATE – October 15, 2012

NOTE: The above date could be changed based on the SEAC Parent Evenings. Members will be advised.

J. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- DSO presentation.

K. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: Kathy Arcuri-Arnott to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.
Seconded by Derek McGivern.

CARRIED