

# ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, September 19, 2016 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	Tabitha Vercillo Melissa Perry
VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children	Kathy Arcuri-Arnott
Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County	Kim D’Hooghe
Lambton County Developmental Services	Carla Alway
Learning Disabilities Association – Chatham Kent	Clare Latimer
Autism Ontario – Chatham-Kent Chapter	Tracey Haddy
Trustees	Brenda Rumble Michelle Parks
Principal Representatives	Cynthia Blair Colleen Cogghe Juli Faubert Ed Freeburn Stacy Shepley
Board Advisors	Deb Crawford Brendan Deery Janet Boyle Chris Preece Lisa Thompson-Power Sara Vadovic

Regrets: Deb Crawford, Derek McGivern

Absent: Clare Latimer, Brenda Rumble, Cynthia Blair, Stacy Shepley

*Brenda Rumble*  
*SEAC Chairperson*

*Deb Crawford*  
*Board Advisor*

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

- A. Welcome & Opening Prayer
- B. Adoption of Agenda

**MOTION BY** Kathy Arcuri-Arnott and seconded by Derek Jane to adopt the agenda.

**CARRIED**

- C. Review of Minutes from June 13, 2016

**MOTION BY** Kim D’Hooghe and seconded by Derek Jane to accept the minutes from the June 13, 2016 SEAC meeting.

**CARRIED**

2. **PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Psycho-Educational Assessments Laura Cutler Robbins

- The handout outlines Laura’s role regarding psychoeducational assessments
- Laura shared the purpose of the assessment as well as the types of assessments provided to the board. There are standard psychoeducational assessments and diagnosis psychoeducational assessments provided.
- The assessments look at the different learning styles of students, academic testing (reading writing math, listening comprehension, etc.), processing skills, memory testing, and/or conceptual development (nonverbal processing).
- The assessments are standard, however, the reports are all unique based on the individual results of each student.
- Laura discussed the tests that she uses and what is involved in assessing students

- B. Pathway to Care and the Mental Well Being Framework Christine Preece

- Christine shared the SCCDSB Well-Being Pathway to Care handout.
- The focus of the work of the team (Child and Youth Workers and Social Workers) has changed and is outlined in the handout.
- The new pathway is a best practice evidence based framework – the Ministry of Education has adopted this framework.
- The new focus for the team is outlined in the “Menu of Services for Schools” in the handout. It will be evaluated based on feedback from the schools in 2 years. Chris shared the work of the team members for each tier of intervention outlined in the Menu.
- The CYWs have been put into teams – south, north and central – to service the schools.
- Ontario’s Well-Being Strategy – the Four Domains of Well-Being are: Equity and Inclusive Schools; Safe and Accepting Schools; Positive Mental Health and Healthy Schools.
- This Ministry strategy encompasses the well-being of both staff and students.

3. **ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

- A. Community Living Wallaceburg Derek McGivern

- No report

- B. Community Living Chatham-Kent Derek Jane

- Ball hockey tournament fundraiser on October 1, 2016 at St. Clair College.

- C. Epilepsy Support Centre Tabitha Vercillo

- An Alternative Therapies information night on October 20, 2016 – a free event at YMCA.
- D. VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children Kathy Arcuri-Arnott
- No report
- E. Down Syndrome Association – Lambton County Kim D’Hooghe
- No report
- F. Lambton County Developmental Services Carla Always
- A family information night on October 26, 2016 regarding innovative and partner options for housing.
  - Fusions wine and craft beer event on November 11 & 12, 2016 at DeGroot’s.
- G. Learning Disabilities Association – Chatham Kent Clare Latimer
- No report
- H. Autism Ontario – Chatham-Kent Chapter Tracey Haddy
- No report

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

A. N/A

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

A. N/A

**6. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- A. Tracking of Phonological Assessment Janet Boyle
- Beginning September 26, 2016, the Speech-Language Pathologists will be administering the phonological awareness screening to all students across the district in Year 2 of the Kindergarten program.
  - Grade 1 students considered to be “at risk” (based on last April’s screening results) will be screened by the Program Resource Teacher in each school.
  - The objectives of the screening are to assist teachers in identifying and tracking the development of early literacy skills to support student success and to provide the school team with very useful data to support programming.
  - Currently the board is developing a program so that the data for each student can be tracked centrally, similar to EQAO results and other student data. This data will be available to Principals and Senior Administration.
- B. Geneva Centre Program Sara Vadovic
- The board has been provided 20 spaces for the opportunity to complete online courses for educators through Geneva Centre.
  - The courses available are: Charting a Path to Success in Your Classroom: An Introductory Autism Certificate Course for Educators; Online Applied Behaviour Analysis Certificate Course for Educators; Online Special Topic for Educators: Supporting Children with ASD in an Inquiry and Play-Based

Learning Environment Using ABA Certificate Course; and ABA for Educators Level II: Practical Applications of Reinforcement and Prompting in the Classroom.

- We are going to recruit new and existing Program Resource Teachers and Classroom Teacher as well as the ASD team members.

C. Changes to Enrichment Programming

Lisa Thompson-Power

- There are an estimated 30 students in Sarnia Lambton and 28 students in Chatham Kent this year. Letters went home to parents in June inviting all of the students to the 2016-17 learning opportunities for enrichment.
- The students are in grades 4 through 8. New students are invited to attend based on their scores in the Canadian Test of Cognitive Skills (CTCS) an assessment administered to all grade 4 students in early spring.
- Enrichment opportunities will be held in the secondary schools – St. Patrick’s and UCC. Each group will come together on 4 occasions throughout the school year:
- The focus of the programming will be on Science, Technology, Math and/or the Arts
- The first sessions at St. Patrick’s and UCC are on October 19<sup>th</sup> and October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

D. September 30<sup>th</sup> Professional Development Day for Educational Assistants

Brendan Deery

- The Educational Assistants will have the opportunity for training in two areas: BMS (Behaviour Management Systems) and Autism.
- All EAs who received the full training last year will receive the BMS half day refresher training.
- All EAs will work on the “Introduction to Autism Modules from Geneva Centre” – a continuation of the module completion. EAs completed Modules 1-3 last Spring On September 30<sup>th</sup> Modules 4 – 6 will be completed. There are 12 modules in total.

E. Special Education Report

Brendan Deery

- The Ministry of Education has not released any new information regarding the Special Education Report.

**7. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD**

A. Nothing to report at this time

**8. QUESTIONS ASKED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

A. N/A

**9. NEXT MEETING DATE:    October 17, 2016 at 7:00pm.**

**10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

A. N/A

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION BY** Kathy Arcuri-Arnott and seconded by Derek Jane to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 pm.

**CARRIED**