



**Minutes of the Special Education
Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 2, 2016
4:00 pm – Maitland Room
Avon Maitland Education Centre**

Voting Members/

Alternates Present: K. Fox, C. Bennewies, T. Sparling, D. Pratley, L. Geddes

Non-Voting Members: G. Haber, E. Bannerman

Staff Present: P. Blair, E. Salmon

Member Regrets: J. Costello, T. McGregor, M. Krebs, D. Barkley, L. Harper

Guests Present:

Recorder: C. Trotter

We did not have quorum. Approval of the agenda, minutes and adjournment is not possible.

1.0 Routine Matters

1.1 Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the March 2, 2016 agenda: _____ seconded by _____

CARRIED

1.2 Approval of the February 3, 2016 SEAC Minutes

Motion to accept the minutes _____ seconded by _____

CARRIED

2.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

2.1 Parent workshop – update

Discussion held regarding partnering with PIC. Hope to have a good turnout. Can provide childcare if required. Time is 7-8:30. Discussion held regarding live streaming the event to a couple of places in Huron and Perth. We will need to confirm with Dr. Clinton, to be sure she is ok with this. Wes McVicar has just started doing live stream events, will have to confirm with him if this is possible as well. If we can't do it this year, it can be done next year. Anne Hathaway P.S. has been tentatively booked and can be confirmed if the committee is agreeable. Connie to send information to Wes, to create posters. A registration link will be created before March break. PICs next meeting is April 20, but that may change now that we have a firm date and speaker.

Emma Bannerman can arrange for students, we won't know firm numbers until registration closes. Will ask if children have special needs to help in knowing if we need to hire an EA

Terri Sparling offered to introduce and thank Dr. Clinton. Connie to arrange snacks, juice, water.

Superintendent Blair received a message from Michelle Garcia Winner from Social Thinking that their email messages were bouncing back. We will see if they can do this for next year.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Provincial Schools

Memo received from director of Special Education Branch. Re: provincial schools, Robarts and Amethyst. Superintendent Blair contacted our local Ministry office, asking when consultation is happening. This might be early as next week. Connie to send memo out to SEAC members. We believe in inclusion, but if you want to be proficient in American Sign Language, you would apply to attend one of the provincial schools. Superintendent Blair spoke about how important the provincial schools are for some of our students.

Question: What happens to the students who are not admitted? Answer: Not all schools send students to provincial schools. Larger boards have large classes for students. Staff try to make sure that the applications are successful, to avoid disappointment. We have the STAR program, Empower, etc., to be sure that kids have the resources in the school.

- 3.2 We have a contingent of 24 people from the Netherlands, coming to tour some of our schools. They heard about our board from Inclusive Education Canada. They want to move to an inclusive country. They will spend 2 full days, meeting, ministry staff, and principals, etc., on April 4 and 7. They will be visiting the Ontario College of Teachers, Ministry of Education & Children's Aid Society. Planning is still in process. They want to know how to start to move to inclusion. Question: Do they have a SEAC committee? We don't know at this point, but will be doing some research over March Break.

4.0 Trustee Board Report

French Immersion program not going ahead in Huron County.

5.0 Association Reports

Huron Perth Centre: The first week of May is Children's Mental Health week. Try to engage many students to promote. More information will be coming.

Foundations Huron: Dream Big next week.

6.0 Additional items:

None at this time.

7.0 Student Senator Reports

No report

8.0 Future Agenda Items

- Karen Congram, teacher from NWSS. Karen's role is reaching out to students who would be Crown Wards. She sees students every week. Need advice around post-secondary advice. Will talk about her program.
- Katie Fox to send info by email.
- Lisa Harper – present on Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus Association of Ontario
- Update on Choosin Inclusion
- System Principal Eleanor Salmon – LD presentation
- Employment for students who leave school for employment. (video: TVO, Autism)
- Orientation for SEAC members (ongoing)
- St. Marys video
- Calendar/plan of what's happening in schools
- Definition of Inclusion
- Budget – Cheri Carter (May, June)
- Parent Workshop. Dr. Jean Clinton. April 22, 2016 at Anne Hathaway P.S.
- Section(s) to be reviewed from the Special Education Plan

9.0 Date of Next Meeting

- April 6, 2016

Future Meetings:

- May 11, 2015 **(Note: this is the second Wednesday of the month.)**
- June 1, 2016
- June 15, 2015 **(Second meeting of the month is for budget.)**

These dates will be posted on the Board website.

10.0 Adjournment

Moved by _____ to adjourn.

The Special Education Advisory Committee meeting is adjourned at 4:30 pm.

**Committee Members
2015 – 2016**

Voting Members	Non-Voting Members	Alternate Members
Katie Fox – Chair <i>Foundations Huron</i>	Greg Haber <i>Elementary Principal Rep</i>	
Marty Krebs – Vice Chair <i>Member at Large</i>	Emma Bannerman <i>Secondary Principal Rep</i>	Mary Lynn MacDonald <i>Member at Large</i>
Lynette Geddes <i>Trustee</i>	Peggy Blair <i>Superintendent of Education</i>	Nancy Rothwell <i>Trustee</i>
Doug Pratley <i>Trustee</i>	Eleanor Salmon <i>System Principal</i>	Randy Wagler <i>Trustee</i>
Terri Sparling <i>Huron Perth Centre</i>	Jane Morris <i>Superintendent of Education</i>	
Jennifer Costello <i>Community Living – St. Marys & Area</i>		
Trevor McGregor <i>Community Living – Stratford & Area</i>		
Doris Barkley <i>Perth District Health Unit Autism Ontario</i>		
Carol Bennewies <i>Member at Large</i>		
Lisa Harper <i>Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus Association of Ontario</i>		