



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

**Wednesday, January 11, 2017
4:00 pm – Maitland Room
Avon Maitland Education Centre**

Voting Members/

Alternates Present: C. Bennewies, L. Harper, L. Geddes, K. Fox, M. Krebs, T. Sparling

Non-Voting Members: R. Lovell, H. Finch

Staff Present: P. Blair, M. Pfaff

Member Regrets: D. Pratley, T. McGregor, D. Barkley, J. Costello

Guests Present: J. Campbell

Recorder: C. Trotter

1.0 Routine Matters

1.1 Approval of the December 2, 2016 Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda: C. Bennewies seconded by L. Harper
CARRIED

1.2 Approval of the January 11, 2017 Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda: C. Bennewies seconded by L. Harper
CARRIED

1.3 Approval of the November 2, 2016 Minutes

Motion to accept the minutes L. Geddes seconded by M. Krebs
CARRIED

1.4 Approval of the December 7, 2016 SEAC Minutes

Motion to accept the minutes C. Bennewies seconded by L. Harper
CARRIED

2.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

2.1 As follow up to Trustee Pratley's verbal report re item 4.0 from the December SEAC meeting, Trustee Geddes confirmed a response has been sent to the parent group who had questions related to inclusion and SCC classes.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Exceptional Student Numbers 2016-2017 – Superintendent Blair **Deferred to a future meeting.**

3.2 Dreambox Presentation – Vice Principal Pfaff

<http://www.dreambox.com/>

Dreambox is an online subscription-based math program for students in Kindergarten to grade 8. The program gathers data as the student works through the lessons, gives the teacher feedback and also works to give the student individual lessons. It allows the student to have 'productive struggle', providing gradual supports to help them attain new strategies for solving problems. Recommends 100 minutes a week. The teacher can program two out of six areas of focus for the student. There are 3 different environments, based on grade, not mathematical ability. The student might be working at grade one level, but the lesson will be delivered in the grade four interface which is age respectful. Allows teachers to see quite quickly where the students are and also teaches the teacher how the student is learning. We have enough licences for ten junior classrooms. We will be able to share statistics at a later date.

Question: Is there one specific area that students aren't getting, is that why you went with this program? Answer: There are some board wide trends we can see with EQAO. Individual schools might focus on a particular area where the students are struggling. It helps teachers teach to support their own math learning.

Katie thanked Missy for her presentation.

3.3 Document: Convention the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, United Nations – Superintendent Blair

A good document in terms of information on inclusion. This document contains information about the need for systemic changes for people with disabilities. Members can read the document and discuss it at a future meeting.

3.4 Special Education Plan update – Section 4.0 Special Education Placements Provided by the Board – Vice Principal Pfaff

Vice Principal Pfaff met with a Learning Services Consultant, who reviewed this section.

The section needs to be revised further to reflect current supports, such as the addition of a Mental Health Counsellor employed by the school board as well as CCAC Mental Health Nurses.

As SEAC is aware, Special Education Plans are reviewed annually by this committee of the board. One revision to this section is to add in multiple exceptionalities. The Board is no longer in a partnership with the Children's Aid Society (CAS) but we do continue to have a partnership with the Huron Perth Centre for Children & Youth. Vice Principal Pfaff will make further changes, and bring back to SEAC. If you have any recommendations, please forward to Connie Trotter.

3.5 Draft Definition of Inclusion – Learning for All Coordinator J. Campbell

Judy took the suggested draft definitions from SEAC and worked in teams with Learning for All Coaches to come up with some different draft definitions, which she handed out for each SEAC member to look at and give feedback.

Judy asked that members make notes on the handouts and report on their findings after reading each definition. She will take these notes back to the working group to consolidate in to one draft version. Judy thanked everyone for their feedback.

4.0 Trustee Board Report

Trustee Geddes reported there have been no meetings since Christmas.

5.0 Association Reports

None

6.0 Future Agenda Items

- Orientation for SEAC members
- St. Marys video
- Calendar/plan of what's happening in schools
- Definition of Inclusion
- Budget – Cheri Carter (February, May, June)
- Parent Workshop

7.0 Date of Next Meeting

- March 1, 2017

Future Meetings:

- April 5, 2017
- May 10, 2017 (**Note: this is the second Wednesday of the month.**)
- May 31, 2017
- June 7, 2017

These dates will be posted on the Board website.

8.0 Adjournment

Moved by L. Geddes to adjourn.

The Special Education Advisory Committee meeting is adjourned at 5:47 pm.

**Committee Members
2016 – 2017**

Voting Members	Non-Voting Members	Alternate Members
Katie Fox – Chair <i>Foundations Huron</i>	Ruth Lovell <i>Elementary Principal Rep</i>	
Marty Krebs – Vice Chair <i>Member at Large</i>	Helena Finch <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>	<i>Robert Hunking Trustee</i>
Doug Pratley <i>Trustee</i>	Missy Pfaff <i>Vice Principal</i>	Nancy Rothwell <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>		