



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

**Wednesday, October 5, 2016
4:00 pm – Maitland Room
Avon Maitland Education Centre**

Voting Members/

Alternates Present: K. Fox, D. Barkley, C. Bennewies, Doug Pratley, J. Costello,
L. Harper, L. Geddes, T. McGregor, M. Krebs

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

Staff Present: M. Pfaff,

Member Regrets: T. Sparling, P. Blair

Guests Present: T. Marshment, T. Doherty

Recorder: C. Trotter

1.0 Routine Matters

1.1 Approval of the Agenda (with additions)

Motion to approve the agenda: C. Bennewies seconded by D. Barkley
CARRIED

1.2 Approval of the September 7, 2016 SEAC Minutes

Page 4, Autism Ontario update: change VIP: to CICE Program Community
Integration through Cooperative Education
Empower statement in 3.1 Change to: There are guidelines to determine
eligibility to the program. Students work in groups of eight or less.
Statement should read: We have nurses provided by CCAC.
Motion to accept the minutes with the above changes: L. Harper seconded
by L. Geddes
CARRIED

2.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

2.1 Special Education Plan – updates – M. Pfaff

Date needed to be changed, sent to the Ministry and pulled from the
website. Corrections have been made and the plan has been reposted
and sent to the Ministry. Hard copies will be available for SEAC members
at the next meeting.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Student Support Team Presentation – Tracy Marshment

The Student Support Team consists of six people, two teachers and four
EAS. They are a travelling resource, available on an as needed basis.

They are connected to the Learning Services Team. School Teams have a process which include, but not limited to: team meetings which include the Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT), Administration, classroom teacher and possibly an EA. The team is not involved at this point. Tracy explained what happens before their team is involved. If contact with the team is requested, the principal or SERT contacts the team, requesting consultation. A date is set with the team, consent for access to the OSR for SST needs to be signed by parent/guardian. They try to get as many people around the table as possible. Strive EA, if in the school, will be invited to sit at the table as well.

If the team is working with an entire class, individual consents are not required.

The team also offers professional development for school teams such as Leaky Brakes, Collaborative & Proactive Solutions (CPS), challenging behaviour, transitions, writing behaviour and safety plans, NTIP, and PD days.

SST EAs are very good at building relationships with students, who see a fresh face and feel they have a fresh start. We are the ones coming in, when things are not going well for the student.

Katie thanked Tracy for her report.

3.2 Strategic Plan – Director Doherty

New strategic plan (overhaul of previous plan). Highlight the changes: 2 priorities: focus on 2 main items: creating positive, inclusive learning environments AND maximizing outcomes for students. Director Doherty talked about how every child is important in public education. We are one of the only boards in Ontario moving toward full inclusion. This is incredibly important work. For the students with developmental disabilities, their lives are better when they are in school, and will be better when they are leave school. For other students, their lives are richer for being involved in inclusion. The second statement is changed from maximizing student outcomes, to maximizing outcomes for students. We want to set the students up to be as successful as possible.

Engaging our students: took out 'value' students and families and staff. Goal is to have students engaged in the learning process.

Director Doherty discussed the idea of Inspiring using evidence-based Teaching and Learning.

Trevor McGregor noted that children are better off when they are included. This is a challenge in the adult developmental system, as there is not enough money. The young adults who have developed the skills and services, they won't get the financial support. The rest of the system are not keeping up with these success. We need to figure out how to take the successes the schools are having and how do we continue to make those community connections. Director Doherty noted this is why conversations like this, and with other community partners, is so important.

Discussion held regarding the changes and how post-secondary affects students.

Katie thanked Director Doherty for his presentation.

3.3 Draft Definition of Inclusion – Vice Principal Pfaff

Handout.

Learning for All Coordinator Amy Kipfer and Vice Principal Pfaff updated the group on the move toward inclusion in June 2015. The Learning Services team has been asked to have conversations on the definition of inclusion. Superintendent Blair asked that we discuss what's important, and add anything that's missing. We can revisit until we have a definition that we are happy with. We don't have a specific definition, but are using notes/suggestions from Principal/Vice Principal meetings. Review handout and bring back thoughts and ideas to the November meeting. This can be thoughts on what should stay, what should go and what can/should be added. There will be discussion – Connie to send reminder one week before the meeting.

3.4 Program Policy Memorandum #8: Identification of and Program Planning for Students with Learning Disabilities – Vice Principal Pfaff

Newest around Learning Disabilities. Suggestion: take it away and bring questions back for the next meeting.

3.5 Special Education Plan revisions:

Section 12.0: Early and On-Going Identification Review – Vice Principal Pfaff

Consulted with colleagues in the Program Department, who suggested changes.

12.3: wording changes

12.4: wording changes

We will start working our way through the plan, which was revised by Helena last year. Question regarding acronyms

Discussion held regarding the description of Calling All Three Year Olds (CATYO). What does 'community services' mean. Vice Principal Pfaff will talk to her colleagues in the Program Department and bring suggestions back to the next meeting. The old version has more detail than the new one has. Discussion about the contents of the package, which is a very welcoming package. Discussion held regarding the contents of the package and the registration process.

3.6 Delegations – Trustee Pratley

Is it the mandate of SEAC to receive delegations at our meetings? Do we even hear delegations? It was noted that each voting member of SEAC is a delegate for their organization. Trustee Pratley wondered if it possible to

make a delegation to SEAC. Discussion held if we can hear delegations. SEAC can make a recommendation to the Board, but the board may not implement the recommendation. Vice Principal Pfaff will do some research, check with Superintendent Blair and will post the information on the SEAC Google Group. Long standing members of SEAC noted SEAC has never entertained delegates.

4.0 Trustee Board Report

Nothing to report at this time.

5.0 Association Reports

Foundations Huron: Teen Talk (previously known as The Buddy Up Program) is a 6 week training program offered to youth ages 11-14 who have Autism or Aspergers Syndrome. This program focuses on social skills and social boundaries. There is no cost to participate but you must pre-register. Please call Marg Cressman at 519 482-3557, Ex. 207 or e-mail margc1@clch.ca to register or for further information.

Autism Ontario: Walk in September was very successful, raising \$14,500, with more money coming in, some from corporate sponsorship. Did announce funding of \$400 per child for support and accepting applications.

Trevor: summer programs. The programs have been beneficial for students and their expectations. Helps foster and becomes a way of life for them. We have a similar program for summer of 2107, which is the last year for the Trillium grant. Very clear that when you model inclusion for society, there are more opportunities for students.

Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus Association of Ontario: October is Spina Bifida month. Lottery calendars are coming up again. All funds raised go back into the programs. There aren't a whole lot of programs in the area, trying to get more on the go.

Community Living St. Marys & Area: Annual smile walk is being held on October 16. Money used for summer sports.

6.0 Student Senator Reports

No report

7.0 Future Agenda Items

- Homework: See above.
- Orientation for SEAC members
- Calendar/plan of what's happening in schools
- Definition of Inclusion

- Budget – Cheri Carter (February 1st, May 31st, & June 7th)
- Parent Workshop

8.0 Date of Next Meeting

- November 2, 2016

Future Meetings:

- December 7, 2015
- January 4, 2017
- February 1, 2017
- March 1, 2017
- April 5, 2017
- **May 10, 2017 (Note: this is the second Wednesday of the month.)**
- **May 31, 2017 (New meeting date to review 2016-2017 budget.)**
- **June 7, 2017 (This meeting will be for final approval. Cancel June 14 meeting date.)**

These dates will be posted on the Board website.

9.0 Adjournment

Moved by M. Krebs.

The Special Education Advisory Committee meeting is adjourned at 5:45 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>	Nancy Rothwell <i>Trustee</i>
Doug Pratley <i>Trustee</i>	Eleanor Salmon <i>System Principal</i>	Alyson Kent <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>		