



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

**Wednesday, September 13, 2017
4:00 pm – Maitland Room
Avon Maitland Education Centre**

Voting Members/

Alternates Present: P. Huettlin, C. Bennewies, D. Barkley, D. Pratley, K. Morrison, L. Geddes, K. Fox, T Sparling

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

Staff Present: P. Blair, M. Pfaff

Member Regrets: T. McGregor, S. Lee, M. Krebs, J. Morris

Presenters:

Recorder: C. Trotter

1.0 Routine Matters

1.1 Approval of the September 13, 2017 Agenda

Moved by D. Barkley seconded by C. Bennewies

That the agenda be approved with the addition of 3.7: Update on Staff Training
CARRIED

1.2 Approval of the June 7, 2017 SEAC Minutes

Moved by L. Geddes seconded by T. Sparling

That the minutes be approved as presented
CARRIED

2.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

2.1 List of Resources from Spec Ed Plan

Request from members at the June meeting for resources which are listed on page 31 of the Special Education Plan. Vice Principal Pfaff outlined the documents that have been changed since the plan was written.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Update from Huron Perth Centre – T. Sparling

Handouts sent to all SEAC members.

Community Update: HPC has been in operation since 1977 and has developed strong positive working relationships with valued community partners. As of August 2014, they are the Lead Agency for Child & Youth Mental Health for Huron & Perth.

Community Consultation 2017: 140 community professionals were invited to participate in an online consultation survey, which received a 34% response rate. Feedback and comments were appreciated and helped identify a number

of service issues. Appropriate action will be taken to improve consistency and quality. The survey covered waiting lists, and waiting periods, accessibility, communication and more services.

Dr. Michael Unger: Monday, October 16 at St. Anne's Secondary School in Clinton.

3.2 Update on Special Need Strategy: Integrated Rehabilitation Services

Superintendent Blair noted the Special Needs Strategy (SNS) started about 2.5 years ago, for young people with complex needs. Students who may need mental health, occupational/physical therapy, or any combination of needs will be serviced by the SNS. There are many organization providing services, which parents would have to access individually.

For the first piece the committee had to figure out who was the lead organization to provide this service. It was decided that Community Services Coordination Network (CSCN) in London would be the organizer, going forward. The second piece that we've been working on for over two years, is about making the delivery of rehabilitation services seamless. On September 1, we received a memo from the Ministry of Education (MoE), putting the work of the steering committee on hold. There will be a working committee of stakeholders, to see how we can put the best proposal forward. Will be working with the local health integration network, the Local Health Integration Network (LHINs). For now, it's business as usual, until we hear back from the MoE.

Policy/Program Memoranda 81, Concerning Special Education (PPM81). The MoE is looking at this as well. Very complex work. Keep the steering committees informed, but all work of the committee is on hold at this point. Just rehabilitation services steering committee work has been put on hold at this point.

3.3 New Document: Special Education in Ontario: Kindergarten to Grade 12

Superintendent Blair spoke about this long anticipated document, which is in draft format only. We will talk about it at the next meeting. This supercedes some other documents. Much of this information is in the Special Education Plan. MoE will be seeking feedback for about one year.

[Link to document](#)

Discussion followed.

3.4 Update: Individual Education Plan Timelines

Superintendent Blair spoke about the Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting in Ontario Schools Reporting Classification from MoE, which arrived at the end of June. The memo speaks to IEPs in the first 30 days, and then at the end of October, a progress report is generated for students. The memo notes the change which allows 30 day IEP report with no updates required at the time of the progress report.

[Link to Memo.](#)

3.5 New Elementary Teacher Positions

Superintendent Blair spoke about extra funding, which came to Special Education, which will help fund additional positions. The following positions were added:

- Additional Resource Teacher sections at several schools
- Students with Technology Achieving Results (STAR) teacher
- Early intervention Teacher (.5)
- Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Teacher
- ABA Child & Youth Worker (CYW)
- Resource Teacher position at several schools

These positions will help us better address student needs.

3.6 Learning Services Organization Chart

Hand out in package.

Superintendent Blair explained the different positions and departments within Learning Services.

Discussion followed.

3.7 Update on training for staff during 17-18

Superintendent Blair noted some opportunities we are working on:

- Empower Reading – all elementary schools and all but 1 secondary school
- Geneva Centre Training: Dr Kathy Quill, 14 people attended the training. With the team, we are going to work on what these people learned at the 2 day training. Do-Watch-Listen-Stay.
- Safety Training with two EAs in every secondary school who work in shop classes.
- Resource Teacher Working Group will be continuing with 16 teachers participating in the training, for the 3rd year.
- Dig deep into Learning Disabilities, understanding this learner profile for all resource teachers.
- Transition planning: for all secondary & department heads.
- Ross Greene work; 6 schools. Dr. Greene is coming to the board in December; all Strive CYWs to participate in training with him. [Link to video.](#)
- Lexia Reading Core.
- Dreambox Math Program
- Research through Brock University. Trustee Geddes explained the background of the research of inclusive practices of the board. Western University: Dr. Jackie Specht (psychologist and professor from the Faculty of Education) asked if she could do research on first year teachers; their attitude/vision on inclusion.

These are just some of the trainings that will take place over the year.

4.0 Trustee Board Report

Trustee Pratley: Trustees now have a new Trustee Code of Conduct; Trustee Geddes worked tirelessly on this document. Enrollment numbers are up, which meant we didn't have declining enrollment as we had anticipated. Funding will increase accordingly. We also have 219 International students.

Trustee Geddes: The Trustee from the Goderich area has resigned; if you know of anyone, please have them apply. October 6 is the application deadline. One year commitment. Anyone from anywhere in Huron Perth can apply, but it would be good to have someone from the Goderich area. [Link to information on the Board website.](#)

5.0 Association Reports

Foundations Huron: We have completed our strategic plan over the summer. Excited to get to work on many projects throughout the agency. Goal setting on a larger scale. Plowing Match is next week; work on the first ever accessibility committee and the education committee. Working so everyone can attend with full inclusion with dignity. K. Fox outlined the many exciting accessibility features that will be available. Have around 7-8 thousand students coming next week. Lots of people coming out to help with this big event. Great response from schools, who were able to let us know their accessible needs, so we can plan. Videos sent out to the schools. Accessible video links: [IPM Promo](#), [IPM Accessibility & Education at the IPM](#).

Autism Ontario: Annual walk for autism will be held on Sunday, September 17, in Stratford. The Goderich walk was held in June. If we raise at least \$10,000, able to offer each of our families to help with respite costs, swimming, etc.

LDAO: document from LDAO response to consultation with human rights commission; will talk about this at the next meeting. Assessments; a Learning Disability (LD) is the only disability that OHIP does not cover the cost of testing/assessments.

Community Living: Stratford Beerfest, was a very successful fundraiser.

Other items: T. Sparling spoke about LEADS Employment Services. Possibly and new SEAC member. T. Sparling has let the agency know about the AMDSB SEAC. Superintendent Blair and K. Fox will chat about the requirements for someone to sit on the committee.

7.0 Future Agenda Items

- Orientation for SEAC members (ongoing)
- Calendar/plan of what's happening in schools
- Regular updates on the progress of the Brock University research.

8.0 Date of Next Meeting

- October 4, 2017

Future Meetings:

- November 1, 2017

- December 6, 2017
- January 10, 2018 **(Second Wednesday of the month.)**
- February 7, 2018
- March 7, 2018
- April 4, 2018
- May 9, 2018 **(Second Wednesday of the month.)**
- June 6, 2018
- June 13, 2018 **(May be required for budget approval.)**

These dates will be posted on the Board website.

9.0 Adjournment

Moved by L. Geddes to adjourn.

The Special Education Advisory Committee meeting is adjourned at 5:35 pm.

**Committee Members
2017 – 2018**

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>	Missy Pfaff <i>Vice Principal</i>	Robert Hunking <i>Trustee</i>
Terri Sparling <i>Huron Perth Centre</i>	Jane Morris <i>Superintendent of Education</i>	Val Milson <i>Huron Perth Centre</i>
Stephanie Lee <i>Community Living – St. Marys & Area</i>		Jennifer Costello <i>Community Living St. Marys & Area</i>
Trevor McGregor <i>Community Living – Stratford & Area</i>		Peg Huettlin <i>Community Living Stratford & Area</i>
Doris Barkley <i>Perth District Health Unit Autism Ontario</i>		
Carol Bennewies <i>Member at Large</i>		
Karen Morrison <i>Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario</i>		