



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

**Wednesday, March 7, 2018
4:00 pm – Maitland Room
Avon Maitland Education Centre**

Voting Members/

Alternates Present: K. Morrison, K. Fox, R. Hunking, V. Milson, J. Costello, P. Huetlin, C. Schenk, D. Barkley, C. Bennewies

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

Staff Present: Superintendent Black, Vice Principal Pfaff

Member Regrets: S. Lee, T. Sparling, T. McGregor, M. Krebs, D. Pratley

Presenters: J. Campbell, S. Wiffen, K. Norman

Recorder: C. Trotter

1.0 Routine Matters

1.1 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by C. Bennewies seconded by V. Milson

That the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

1.2 Approval of SEAC Minutes – February 7, 2018

Moved by K. Fox seconded by R. Hunking

That the minutes be approved as presented.

CARRIED

2.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

2.1 Superintendent Black noted a new section has been added to the agenda for board updates.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Ontario Autism Program Presentation – K. Norman

[Thames Valley Children's Centre](#) (TVCC)

S. Wiffen, ABA Support, introduced K. Norman who spoke about the Ontario Autism Program (OAP) and how families/children access Autism Services under this new program. She is a Family and Community Consultant who works in partnership with the TVCC to deliver OAP in Huron & Perth Counties. OAP, which replaced ABA-based services and Intensive Behavioural Intervention as separate services. Three key components for accessing services were developed: all families have a single point of access (866-590-8822, press 1), there is one wait list for the region (chronological), once in service children/youth will now stay in the OAP until

their 18th birthday. When a family registers (through single point of access) they are contacted and offered Foundational Services *within 6 weeks* of registering. They can then participate in education and training opportunities that are offered while they wait for their spot to come available for services.

Key components: Once registered caregivers can receive introductory services. The next steps are orientation, eg; what is ASD and what is ABA.

Educational Services: improving communication, building social skills, understanding behaviour, toilet training, sleep, etc.

To register online: <http://www.tvcc.on.ca/events>

Family service plan: family story, transition planning, behavioural services, family services and training, family team.

Family and Child Information (Family Story): Observe, Gather information, initial family meeting. What's important to the parents and the child, goals, who has been involved with their family (professionals). At this point, the child is actively receiving service.

Progress: Once the plan is reviewed and signed by the family, they can start working on their goals. Review every six months, which includes the family team, & review of goals.

Additional information can be found at: www.ontario.ca/autism

OAP single point of access phone number 1-866-590-8822. [Website](#)

K. Morrison thanked K. Norman for her presentation.

4.0 Trustee Board Report

Trustee Hunking:

- Board has sponsored a trip to Germany – students left today.
- School Bus Driver Retention Bonus Program to address concerns across the province about driver retention.
- Changes to the pupil accommodation review process.

5.0 Board Announcements and Updates

a. Transformation Memo - Ministry of Education

Original memo released November 29, 2017. The memo outlined plans to refresh curriculum, renew the approach to Grade 9, review assessment policy and renew our approach to student reports cards and other reporting practices.

Question from K. Morrison was brought forward at the February SEAC meeting regarding how community agencies would be involved in the Transformation. Superintendent Black noted that the Ministry has put a halt on this for now; however, a Transformation Ministry committee is in place. The terms of reference for the committee does say they will value all voices at the table and that wider consultation is being sought. For example, in regards to assessment - community meetings were already held and Doug Pratley attended in Hamilton. This is a 3-5 year mandate. There is also an indication that further outreach will continue into the Fall

2018, which should include other partners at the Provincial and local level. As part of the inquiry for this question, it has been noted to the Ministry that SEAC wishes to be involved.

b. Training for SEAC Members Response – [Link to document](#)

Question from the last meeting around training opportunities for SEAC members. Vice Principal Pfaff reached out to the London Regional Ministry office to find get information. The linked document was recommended. PAaC on SEAC – link above. This document was written by parents and familiar to some members of SEAC.

c. Choosin Inclusion Update – J. Campbell

J. Campbell, Learning for All Coordinator presented: All nine Secondary Schools were able to send 10 students from each school, who demonstrated an interest in inclusion. The teams also included 1 teacher, 1 Administrator, 1 Education Assistant, and 1 Learning for All Coach. Schools were asked to consider students who may not always have a chance at a leadership role. Goals were to understand the individual and collective responsibility we all have to strengthen positive, inclusive learning environments where everyone belongs. AMDSB puzzle, which was created by each of the schools, will be put on display at the Education Centre. Each school was asked to create one puzzle piece and answer how is your school inclusive? What areas do you feel could be more inclusive? Teams worked on the puzzle at the school before the Symposium and presented their results to the whole group.

Keynote Speaker: Norman Kunz - the story of The Stranger. Link to Norman's website: <https://conversationsthatmatter.org/presenters/kunc-norman>

Me to We presentation & break out sessions were also held. This group helped the students to know the difference between inclusivity and exclusivity; explore privilege and how people relate to their own privilege. At the end of the day, time was provided for each school team to plan. A template to be used back at the school was presented as an option, to further their work on their journey. The hope is that once September rolls around, the teams will be up and running.

[Link to Choosin Inclusion information and video](#)

d. Training & Events

- Gifted module: I spy and Eco System, for Grades 7-10
- Resource Teachers: looking at the role and evolution. Have a working group and have them involved in a research project. There are some Resource Teachers who have not been involved, who will come together at the end of March. This will happen in the morning. In the afternoon, the math coordinator will present the numeracy assessment portfolio.

e. Launch of Coordinated Service Planning – VP Pfaff

Shifting from current service provider Local Health Integration network (LHIN, formerly CCAC) to the Thames Valley Children’s Centre (TVCC). Rehab services is business as usual, but there will be a change in our process. This coordinated service is a regional solution and not yet a part of the Special Needs Strategy, as it is still on hold.

Handouts: launch letter and pamphlet – which is only in draft form right now. Coordinated service planning will be provided by CSCN.

www.cscn.on.ca

Next steps: in our area, we are looking at a shared electronic record. If a provider/agency has consent, they will be able to access this record and add their information. Privacy Officers will be invited to discuss. Thames Valley DSB (TVDSB), Avon Maitland DSB (AMDSB), Huron Perth Catholic DSB (HPCDSB) and Thames Valley Catholic DSB (TVCDSB) are getting together to discuss the logistics for school boards

Vice Principal Pfaff noted we have not sent out a formal message with our Admin, because the process is changing.

After April 1, all rehab services will go to TVCC.

6.0 Association Reports

Huron Perth Centre: continue work on Mental Health, children’s mental health week. See the value in the work that’s being done in collaboration.

Community Living St. Marys & Area: last meeting for pilot project. John O’Brian is coming in March for a week. Norman Kunc also came to visit.

Autism Ontario: April 2 is World Autism Day, which will be held on April 3, due to Easter Monday. Contact D. Barkley if any schools would like a speaker, to build awareness of Autism. Walks held in Goderich and Stratford raise funds for families to provide support for families. Year by year event.

7.0 Correspondence

a. Letter from Conseil scolaire catholique Franco Nord

Letter received February 14, 2018. Superintendent Black noted this has to do with the Special Needs Strategy (SNS). Some communities having difficulty choosing providers and in this case, there may be a French language issue.

8.0 Future Agenda Items

9.0 Date of Next Meeting

- April 4, 2018

Future Meetings:

- May 9, 2018 (Second Wednesday of the month. Budget review.)
- May 30, 2018 (Budget review.)

- June 6, 2018 (Members vote on budget.)

These dates are posted on the Board website.

10.0 Adjournment

Moved by D. Barkley to adjourn.

The Special Education Advisory Committee meeting is adjourned at 5:45 pm.

**Committee Members
2017 – 2018**

Voting Members	Non-Voting Members	Alternate Members
Karen Morrison - Chair <i>Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario</i>	Ruth Lovell <i>Elementary Principal Rep</i>	
Katie Fox – Vice Chair <i>Foundations Huron</i>	Helena Finch <i>Secondary Principal Rep</i>	
Robert Hunking <i>Trustee</i>	Kim Black <i>Superintendent of Education</i>	Lynette Geddes <i>Trustee</i>
Doug Pratley <i>Trustee</i>	Missy Pfaff <i>Vice Principal</i>	Colleen Schenk <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>		
Marty Krebs <i>Member at Large</i>		Mary Lynn MacDonald <i>Member at Large</i>