



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

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

**Voting Members/**

**Alternates Present:** K. Morrison, K. Fox, R. Hunking, T. Sparling, P. Huettlin, D. Barkley, C. Bennewies

**Non-Voting Members:** R. Lovell

**Staff Present:** K. Black, M. Pfaff

**Member Regrets:** T. McGregor, H. Finch, M. Krebs

**Presenters:**

**Recorder:** C. Trotter

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**1.0 Routine Matters**

**1.1 Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by D. Barkley seconded by C. Bennewies

That the agenda be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**1.2 Approval of SEAC Minutes – March 7, 2018**

Moved by R. Hunking seconded by D. Barkley

That the minutes be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

**2.0 Business Arising from the Minutes**

2.1

**3.0 New Business**

**3.1 Elevator Speeches from Learning Services – Vice Principal Pfaff**

Information was sent out previously. Intent is to have an elevator speech, with all pertinent information posted to the Learning Services portion of the AMDSB website so staff and parents have a deeper understanding of what services are offered by the team. We are hoping to finish these later this school year. The goal is to have them completed and posted to the website in the fall.

**4.0 Trustee Board Report**

**Trustee Pratley:** Read the PAaC document from the last meeting, specifically looking at the Trustee section. Trustee Pratley noted that although the SEAC minutes go to the board, he is suggesting the committee send an information report to the board every three months. There are items that are discussed at the SEAC which should come to Board meetings. This might raise the profile of SEAC. The

report doesn't need to be lengthy, but should touch on the important points. Suggestion: one of the 2 trustees who sit on the committee, could report on the activities of SEAC. K. Morrison volunteered to write this report.

<b>Avon Maitland District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee</b>	
Be it resolved that SEAC recommends to the Board of Trustees that SEAC will provide an information report to the Board of Trustees every three months.	
<b>Moved by:</b>	Trustee Pratley
<b>Seconded by:</b>	T. Sparling
<b>CARRIED</b>	
<b>Date: April 9, 2018</b>	

Trustee Hunking noted this is for information only at this point. On April 17 at Central Huron SS and April 18 at Stratford Northwestern SS, Trustees will be hosting a 'do you want to be a trustee' information session. If you know of someone who is interested, please let them know of this event.

## 5.0 Board Announcements and Updates

### a) LHIN to TVCC. Transfer Update for OT, PT, SLP

Vice Principal Pfaff noted this change took effect on April 1. Still some legal issues with CCAC/LHIN, who was the service provider to hand over to TVCC. Interim instructions to schools are for school staff to complete TVCC documents, but referrals that will still be sent to LHIN/CCAC in the interim. Anticipating that this will change in approximately a month. There is additional paperwork with this new referral process that will be completed at the school. Waitlists are transferring over, service should remain the same, along with service providers. Memo went out this week regarding this process. The LHIN is still completing home care and nursing care.

### b) Training – Vice Principal Pfaff

#### i. 03/06/18: Gifted Module – Justice for All

Module #7 for this school year. Details in the enclosed memo.

#### ii. 03/26/18: Transportation of Students with Special Needs

This memo is sent out annually. In order to do our best for students with special needs for those riding our buses, we gather their pertinent information. This can include special seating arrangements, EA rides with them, epi pen, etc. This is put into a transportation plan for safe travel for our students. Schools complete the form, regardless of any changes in the plan. Transportation department ensures this plan is sent to the bus company, so they & drivers are aware. Continuous entry, so if there are changes throughout the year, this is updated by the school.

#### iii. 03/26/18: Media Mania – from the Program Department

Summer Learning Experience for students in Grades 7, 8, or 9. Sites include Stratford, Exeter, Wingham & Goderich. These workshops will

enhance learning experiences and summer learning experiences for our students.

**iv. 04/03/18: IEP Review**

Annually, AMDSB conducts an IEP review. This year the focus is on students in an EQAO year, (Grades 3, 6, 9, & 10). Special Education Consultant Cook-McEwen will gather this group of people together. It should be noted that a student's IEP is in place for students as needed, not just during an EQAO year. This will be scheduled soon.

**c) Legislative Assembly of Ontario**

**Prorogued:**

**i. Bill 191: Education Act – Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder**

This Bill amends the Education Act to provide for board activities to promote awareness & understanding of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), including best practices to support pupils who may have FASD. The Bill was prorogued. Refer to the Grand Erie letter stating their support of this Bill. Will have to wait until it's brought back to Legislation. Question: Are students still able to get a diagnosis later on? Yes, the diagnosis can be done at any time. Any student can be considered for accommodations and/or modified programming, regardless of exceptionality, if appropriate. Bottom line, it is not about the diagnosis (i.e. FASD), or other exceptionality, supports are put in place for students as required.

**ii. Bill 198: Student Absenteeism & Protection Act**

This Bill would amend the Child Youth & Family Services Act, 2017, with respect to children who are habitually absent from or late arriving to school. The Bill was prorogued.

**Royal Assent:**

**i. Bill 193: Rowan's Law (Concussion)**

This has been passed.

**d) GSNs/EPOs Released – Superintendent Black**

Associate Superintendent Carter will review this information in detail in May. Good news in that more funding is coming, with more information to follow. We will be looking at where services can be enhanced to reduce wait times.

T. Sparling noted that \$2.1 billion will be released for Mental Health supports. This is the biggest amount ever to be released.

**Highlights:**

\$570 million for MCYS over four years including the following:

- \$300 million for the roll out of the Funding Allocation Framework (to address the historic inequities across communities)
- \$116 million for new services for targeted priority groups
- \$79 million for Indigenous prevention/CYMH services

Health, Education and Universities/Colleges will be receiving separate funding for elements of the comprehensive plan which will complement our investment including:

- \$16.5 million for 15 new Hubs across the province
- \$181 million for new Mental Health workers in every secondary school
- \$11.4 million for Universities and Colleges
- \$425 million for additional supportive housing units
- \$123 million for a 24/7 crisis counselling line
- \$100 million for new acute care hospital beds
- \$125 million for addictions services

e) **Inclusion Research Update – Superintendent Black**

The Board has received updated information.

A Previous administrator has helped call parents, and was offered to do this again, if they request it. The group feels they are on track for a spring report to SEAC. Coming together nicely. It was noted that SEAC has requested the report come to SEAC first, then the board. Superintendent Black to ask Brock University to present at the June 6 SEAC meeting.

## 6.0 Association Reports

**Foundations Huron:** Dream Big tickets are on sale, Clinton, Goderich, Dashwood, Kincardine. Thank you to the board for sponsorship and ticket sales.

**Huron Perth Centre:** We are ready for children's Mental Health week in May. More information to follow from Terri. This is the 11<sup>th</sup> year, that we have celebrated this week. School's are doing amazing activities. Posters have been sent out related to the services provided by HPC. Also excited to share some details of the funding announcement made March 21, 2018 regarding significant investments in CYMH. In fact, this is the most significant investment in mental health in 30 years! While there are many details still to know including the impact of the election, it made sense to share this sign of hope with you now. This includes \$570 million for MCYS over four years.

**Community Living St. Marys & Area:**

SexAbility is a sexual health program for people with developmental disabilities. Hosted by Voices Perth and presented by SHORE Centre. Wednesdays April 11 – May 16<sup>th</sup> at the Stratford Rotary Complex.

**New Initiatives: Include2Improve Youth Leadership:**

- A new group of youth called Include2Improve will start meeting in the fall. The group recently hosted a community Easter Egg hunt in St. Marys on March 31 in collaboration with the St. Marys Youth Centre. The group currently has 10 members, with 5 of the members attending AMDSB schools.
- Two 'Include2Improve' youth and AMDSB students are new Youth Advisory Council members for the Provincial Re:Action4Inclusion movement hosted by Community Living Ontario

- Five (3 AMDSB students) Include2Improve members are attending the Global Student Leadership Summit in London, April 9-11. They are representing Include2Improve and Re:Action4Inclusion.

### **Autism Ontario:**

- D. Barkley visited 2 Huron Perth hospitals. At Stratford General Hospital spoke about Autism toolkit, sensory calming baskets. The hospital has had several families come in and the toolkits & baskets have decreased stress in patients with Autism.
- Project Lifesaver. People at risk can wear a bracelet. There is a one time cost of \$400 to the family, and costs for battery replacement yearly. Looking to our chapter to fund the cost of this bracelet. [Link to article in Stratford Beacon Herald.](#)
- Autism Awareness day was on April 1 – schools will recognize this day on Tuesday.

**LDAO:** developed an online workshop for parents or for those helping parents. Cost is \$250, professional cost is \$350. Opens April 16, but there is continuous registration.

### **7.0 Correspondence (Included with Agenda)**

- a) Letter from Grand Erie DSB Re: Bill 191  
See above for more information.
- b) Registration for Building Inclusive Communities 2018  
Article included in package.
- c) Monkton's Corbyn Smith - Paralympics  
Article included in package.

### **8.0 Future Agenda Items**

- Budget (May, June)

### **9.0 Date of Next Meeting**

- May 9, 2018 **(Second Wednesday of the month. Budget review with Association Superintendent Carter.)**

#### **Future Meetings:**

- 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 T. Sparling to adjourn.

The Special Education Advisory Committee meeting is adjourned at 5:40 pm.

**Committee Members  
2017 – 2018**

<b>Voting Members</b>	<b>Non-Voting Members</b>	<b>Alternate Members</b>
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 &amp; Area</i>		Jennifer Costello <i>Community Living St. Marys &amp; Area</i>
Trevor McGregor <i>Community Living – Stratford &amp; Area</i>		Peg Huettlin <i>Community Living Stratford &amp; 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>