



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

**Wednesday, May 9, 2018
4:00 pm – Maitland Room
Avon Maitland Education Centre**

Voting Members/

Alternates Present: K. Morrison, K. Fox, R. Hunking, S. Lee, P. Huettlin, D. Pratley, J. Costello, J. McCrea, C. Bennewies, D. Barkley, J. McCrea, T. Sparling

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

Staff Present: Superintendent Black, Vice Principal Pfaff

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

Presenters:

Recorder: C. Trotter

1.0 Routine Matters

1.1 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by K. Fox seconded by C. Bennewies

That the agenda be approved as amended.

(Two additions: Student Video & IEP Spring Review 2018.)

CARRIED

1.2 Approval of SEAC Minutes – April 4, 2018

Moved by D. Barkley seconded by C. Bennewies

That the minutes be approved as presented.

CARRIED

2.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

2.1 Introduction of new member, J. McCrea, who will be representing Autism Ontario. D. Barkley will sit as an alternate.

2.2 Chair Morrison talked about the mini report the Chair will complete every three months, to send to the Trustees. This will keep Trustees updated on discussion at SEAC. A template has been developed for this report.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Budget Update – Associate Superintendent Carter

The 2018-2019 budget is in the progress. The Ministry of Education has provided some details over the last few months. On April 27, they have released more information. Staff are working to bring budget to the board in June. On May 30 the entire Special Education budget will be presented to SEAC for review. At the June 6 meeting, finance staff will be asking for support from SEAC to take to Trustees for

their June 12 Board meeting. Associate Superintendent Carter reviewed financial documents sent out to members. Financial staff are waiting for final/complete information from the Ministry. We are encouraged to see additional funding for Mental Health supports in our Secondary Schools. Most details should be finalized by May 30, 2018.

If members have budget questions, please forward to C. Trotter, who will compile and forward to Superintendent Carter.

4.0 **Trustee Board Report**

Trustee Hunking:

Good news: funding for renovations for Stratford Central S.S. will allow the board to make the school accessible. The Board will receive \$5 million from the Ministry of Education for these upgrades. [Link for more information.](#)

5.0 **Board Announcements and Updates**

a) Friendship Games – Superintendent Black

The initial cancelling of the games, was meant to be a re-envisioning process. It was noted that some schools in Avon Maitland DSB do not attend the games because they incorporate all their students in school events. The games at GDCI have been reinstated for this year, to continue to support this initiative, but will also support events at all schools. Superintendent Black noted that she has apologized to the Trustees as it was noted in the media that they were part of this decision, which was not the case. If GDCI wants to run Friendship Games next year, they will receive the support of Senior Staff.

b) Special Education Plan Update – Vice Principal Pfaff

Vice Principal Pfaff reviewed the sections of the annual Special Education Plan that are reviewed on a yearly basis:

Section 3.1: IPRC Referrals, Reviews & Appeals. Requests out to Resource Teachers for these numbers. Deadline to report is May 30.

Section Range of Placements: full review was done last year. This will stay the same this year.

Section 6.0: Learning Services Staff: this will updated before the plan is finalized for the end of June and is part of the overall staffing process.

Section 7.0: Equipment: This is the listing of Special Equipment Amount (SEA). This will be finalized at the end of May, with a Ministry report.

Section 8.0 Transportation: This section is reviewed by the Transportation Manager and should be completed by the end of May. Dates for new specialized busing, have come in by April 30, so bulk of routes can be set up. For busing requests which are being renewed, this deadline is May 30. In regards to Medical Management Plans all Administrative Procedures (APs) will be impacted, which will see us review these APs. Student Medical Management Plans are housed at school and on the bus.

Section 10.0: Provincial Demonstration Schools: will be updated from the Information Department, toward the end of May.

Section 14.0 Specialized Health Support Services in School Settings:

Numbers are compiled for the period of May 1, 2017 – April 30, 2018. All specialized health services, are shifting from Community Care Access Centre (CCAC/LHIN), waiting for information from Thames Valley Children’s Centre (TVCC) to say that referrals will be sent to TVCC and school processes will be tweaked. This section will be revised accordingly. The numbers provided in the report will be for the current year only. Once the referral has been submitted, we don’t know where each student is on the wait list. We are hopeful, with the change over to TVCC, they will update the number of students on the wait list.

Section: 16.0: Accessibility of School Buildings: This section has been updated by Facilities staff. (Hand out to the committee.)

Section 18.0: Special Education Advisory Committee: Voting members & non-voting members have been updated.

Section 18.2.5 Development of the Special Education Budget: Dates in this section will be updated.

At this time, there are no major changes planned. Superintendent Black has some ideas of changes, but that will be discussed at a later date. Some sections may change due to the new funding announcements. The plan will stay the same, unless otherwise directed or as processes change.

c) Student Video – Vice Principal Pfaff

Student video shown from Listowel D.S.S.

d) IEP Review Spring 2018 – Superintendent Black

Last year’s IEP Review has not been closed. Data for this year’s review has been gathered. Staff were asked to pull back on the this year’s annual review. We need to close the loop on the data from last year. Resource Teachers will be asked to come to an in-service in September to complete this process. Vice Principal Pfaff noted there are some actions that have come out of the last review which impacts the work of the third party provider, which has slowed things down. The tech part has to be finalized.

6.0 Association Reports

Foundations Huron: This is Community Living month. 11th Annual Last Light Photo Show & Sale held on May 5 and on display at the Goderich Branch of the Huron County Library.

Annual Gerbera Daisy Fundraiser May 9-11 at the office.

Dream Big Event on May 10.

Scholarships available:

Evelyn M. Carroll Scholarship which offers financial support for people with a developmental disability who want to further their post-secondary education, training or apprenticeship. Deadline is May 11.

Florence & Arthur Maskell Scholarship which offers financial support for an individual who is furthering their post-secondary education, training or apprenticeship in the field of Developmental Services.

Huron Perth Centre: It is Canadian Mental Health week. Please consider wearing a ribbon or green.

Canadian Mental Health also had significant funding announcements and we are looking to consult with both boards of Education and health partners to think as, a system as we all work to make decisions, about the funding. Together we are stronger.

Community Living Stratford & Area: Hosting information session on how Bill 148 affects families who hire workers. This will be held on June 4, at the Stratford Community Living office, 12 Frederick Street, Stratford from 6:30 – 8:30.

Autism Ontario: April 2 was World Autism Awareness day. Many schools recognized this day. We have also put out a call for more Chapter members. Decided not to run the June run in Goderich. Scholarships are available for those on the spectrum, siblings and for a child who has a parent on the spectrum. Vice Principal Pfaff asked D. Barkley to forward information to Superintendent Black who will forward to the board's Communication Manager to will send to Secondary Schools.

7.0 Correspondence

a) Letter from CSCN to Ministry of Education

b) The Conforti – Reach for the Stars Award

c) Peel DSB letter to SEAC Committees

In our area, we have just enough bus drivers, so we don't experience this same type of issue that the Peel Board is experiencing.

d) Peterborough Victoria CDSB letter to Ministry of Education

Associate Superintendent Carter has reviewed this letter. The board is saying they agree with the Auditor General, to review the Special Education Budget. Special Education funding reform is very complex. The Ministry of Education is fully aware of concerns.

Superintendent Black noted that over the last couple of months, we have received a number of these types of letters. Some have a different lived experience than Avon Maitland DSB, some are in much larger, urban areas. We need to read, but not necessarily have to follow up.

e) TVDSB letter to Ministry of Education

Superintendent Black would like to look at our own data, but realize the burden we place on schools to ask for this data. This is on the to do list. Vice Principal Pfaff noted that when service is transferred to TVCC, they will send us a list of those on the list. But this cannot happen until TVCC officially takes over the wait list.

8.0 Future Agenda Items

- Budget – May 30 & June 6.
- Updates on the revisions/changes to the Special Education Plan.
- Dr. Sheila Bennett will present at the June 6 meeting.
- P. Weir will present on transitions out of secondary at the May 30 meeting.
- Pot luck at the June 6 meeting.

Chair and Vice Chair could debrief with new member, J. McCrea to bring her update to date with SEAC's mandate and processes.

9.0 Date of Next Meeting

- May 30, 2018 **(Last Wednesday of the month. Budget review.)**

Future Meetings:

- 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>
Jan McCrea <i>Autism Ontario</i>		Doris Barkley <i>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>