



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

**Wednesday, May 30, 2018
4:00 pm – Maitland Room
Avon Maitland Education Centre**

Voting Members/

Alternates Present: K. Morrison, K. Fox, D. Pratley, J. McCrea, C. Bennewies, R. Hunking, T. Sparling

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

Staff Present: K. Black, M. Pfaff

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

Presenters: Associate Superintendent Carter, P. Weir

Recorder: C. Trotter

1.0 Routine Matters

1.1 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by K. Fox seconded by R. Hunking
That the agenda be approved with additions.
CARRIED

1.2 Approval of SEAC Minutes – May 9, 2018

Moved by D. Pratley, seconded by J. McRea
That the minutes be approved as presented.
CARRIED

2.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

2.1

3.0 New Business

3.1 Budget Update – Associate Superintendent Carter

Reviewed discussion from last meeting. SEAC is reviewing this budget before the Trustees, who will see it on June 5. SEAC will then meet on June 6 for their final questions and approval/motion of the 2018-2019 Special Education budget. The Board's final approval process will be on June 12. Associate Superintendent Carter explained the budget documents. Any questions can be forwarded to C. Trotter, who will forward to Associate Superintendent Carter, who will answer at the next meeting. Discussion followed regarding revenue versus expenses and how any deficits are covered across the board. At the June 6 meeting, SEAC members will vote to approve the Special Education budget, so attendance is important.

3.2 Transitions – P. Weir

Works for Developmental Services of Ontario (DSO).

<https://www.dsontario.ca/>

The DSO can provide clients with information about services and supports in their community to help adults with developmental disabilities. They can also tell clients about other community programs that might be useful or interesting. There are many ways to access this information, by phone, in person, by newsletters or online.

DSO is the central access point for any adult (& students who turn 18) to access any services provided for community participation supports, planning, respite, etc. Someone can apply before they are 18, but their status doesn't activate until they are 18. The advantage of applying early is that all the paperwork has been done and clients can become more familiar with the services which are available. The DSO will help clients to complete the application process, workers will work with the families to complete the forms, which will ask what are their hopes for the future, what are likes and dislikes, strengths and needs. Must have this information in order help a client. There can be a space of time between when the application is filled out, the client added to the wait list and then approved for service, so it's important to keep DSO updated on any changes. Special Education Teachers attended an in-service on how they can prepare students to connect with the DSO and other services.

Passport funding is now available to new clients in the amount of \$5000 which can be used by clients towards supports and services.

New initiatives: for families, who are going into crisis, there is a mechanism to help in the short term to help offset these costs and problem-solve. This is also why it's important for families to keep the DSO updated with any new situations. DSO goes through the list of agencies, and services available pertinent to the client. This is a small piece, but so important for families. The agency is also gathering information around resources for housing. Looking for other ways to find housing for clients in need. Just in the beginning stages at on this. Once we have this data, we will be able to pass this along to help clients problem-solve.

Partners for Planning: <http://www.planningnetwork.ca/en-ca>

ConnectAbility.ca: <https://connectability.ca/en/>

3.3 Special Education Plan Updates – Vice Principal Pfaff

- Type of SEA equipment – chart updated with numbers from the current school year.
- SIP Claims: Discussion held regarding Special Incidence Portion (SIP) claims for students who require more than one Educational Assistant. Vice Principal Pfaff clarified that there is a provision in place that a SIP claim can be submitted for students who are

attending part time, not just for students who are attending full time.

- Corrections to grammar and spelling have been completed in the plan. Work continues to update the plan as information becomes available.

3.4 New Staffing Update – Superintendent Black

- We will be adding three Central EA positions to Job Coaching, which will start in the 2018-2019 school year. Some of our students can go to job placements on their own, but some cannot. These EAs will help with that process.
- 1.0 Speech Language Pathologist
- Temporary .5 increase to Deaf & Hard of Hearing teacher for 1 year.

4.0 Trustee Board Report

Trustee Hunking: Student Senators held a student symposium 2 weeks ago. To look at what their vision of what schools should look like in the future. More than 100 students attended, with some great discussion. We are waiting for their report at the next board meeting. Will Richardson was the guest speaker. There was a great cross section of students at the symposium.

5.0 Board Announcements and Updates

- a. Memo #11: Next Generation Learning Device Collection Processes for Students (1:1 iPads, including SEA iPads)

This past summer and this summer, staff collect technology to bring in for service. This also includes any SEA technology. Typically, SEA equipment is housed safely at school, for tech staff to do any needed servicing.

These will be ready to access in good order for students in September. If students are using a SEA or augmentative device, parents can ask for an exemption to this rule. This is done on a case by case basis, and approved by Superintendent Black.

- b. **SEAC Summary to Trustees**

Superintendent Black asked if we should review a process for this report. Should it come to SEAC first before going to the Trustees? Discussion held. Decision: The SEAC Chair will take highlights from approved minutes, to put into the report, which can then be sent to Chair Wagler at least one week prior to a Board meeting to be added to the Board agenda. This can be done bi-monthly. Chair Morrison will send her report to Superintendent Black prior to sending it the Chair Wagler.

- c. **Dream Big Thank You**

Superintendent Black noted this was an amazing night, with a wonderful group of people. We received a thank you from the organizers for our donation and it was very much appreciated.

6.0 Association Reports

Huron Perth Centre:

Huron-Perth Centre is pleased to launch its new Strategic Plan for 2018-2021 at our Annual General Meeting on June 21, 2018. The Huron Perth Child & Youth Mental Health Network is pleased to announce that Dr. Michael Ungar is returning to offer more training in the Social Ecological Approach Sept 17-19, 2018 and will also be offering another parent session. Details will be available soon.

Autism Ontario: At the last meeting, it was discussed about a shortage of people, a call for members has gone out, and more people have stepped forward. A new executive will take over in July.

7.0 Correspondence

None

8.0 Future Agenda Items

- Dr. Bennett from Brock University
- Budget approval
- Pot luck

9.0 Date of Next Meeting

- June 6, 2018 (Members to vote on 2018-2019 budget.)

Future Meetings:

- September 12, 2018

These dates are posted on the Board website.

10.0 Adjournment

Moved by C. Bennewies to adjourn.

The Special Education Advisory Committee meeting is adjourned at 5:55 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>