



# CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO



## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Board Office, Kemptville

6:00 p.m.

### **Present:**

#### **SEAC Members:**

Sue Wilson (Chair), Trustee  
Dave Conners (Vice Chair), Autism Ontario  
Karen McAllister, Trustee  
Fran Brauneisen, Association for Community Living  
Karen Moore, Open Doors for Lanark Children and Youth  
Shelley More, LLG FASD Support Network (Alternate)

#### **Board Resource Staff:**

Donaleen Hawes, Superintendent of School Effectiveness  
Heather Gerber, Principal of Special Education  
Heather Bovey, Coordinator of Special Education  
Claire Dulmage, Psychological Associate

#### **Approved Regrets with notification:**

Rob More, LLG FASD Support Network  
Deena Shorkey, Children's Mental Health Ontario  
Amanda Banfield, Lanark County Support Services  
Lorraine Boyer, Member-at-Large

#### **Guests:**

Andree Anne Richer, Children's Aid Society  
Michael Fenn, Student Trustee

### **Meeting Called to Order**

Sue Wilson (Chair) called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed all members and guests.

### **Opening Prayer**

Heather Gerber led the group in a prayer entitled, "*In the Midst of Winter*".

**I. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Shelley More

CARRIED

**II. Approval of Minutes – January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

SEAC minutes were electronically approved on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**Motion:**

To receive minutes as presented.

Moved by: Fran Brauneisen

CARRIED

**III. Association Updates**

**Autism Ontario – Dave Conners**

No update shared.

**Association for Community Living – Fran Brauneisen**

No update shared.

**LLG FASD Support Network – Shelley More**

Upcoming Meetings or Conferences:

- March 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 – FASD Caregiver Conference, in Ottawa
- March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Rural FASD Support Group visiting Wheeler’s Sugar Bush
- March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Rural FASD Support Group – Debbie Spinks and Service Dogs

New Initiatives:

- CanFASD releases new online course called Foundations of FASD. Free to the public.  
<https://estore.canfasd.ca/foundations-in-fasd>
- FASD Documentary on Globe and Mail begins.  
<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/10-3-podcast-the-myths-and-mystery-of-fetal-alcohol-spectrum-disorder/wcm/35f65300-04db-4055-8121-f4e78f0f4elc>
- Ottawa Catholic hosts first FASD Education presentation.
- Rural FASD Support Network develops 20 minute online presentation for teachers.  
[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/15FXfW45v8DxW8WhF7lijvETj1\\_Z2cAiaDYyPFDglylY/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/15FXfW45v8DxW8WhF7lijvETj1_Z2cAiaDYyPFDglylY/edit?usp=sharing)

Other Information:

- MCCSS has not launched a new provincial website yet, however, queries are being made.
- 2019-2020 funding from MCCSS seems to be on hold.
- Holy Name of Mary Parish holds a fundraiser drive for Rural FASD Support Network.

**Open Doors for Lanark Children and Youth – Karen Moore**

No update shared.

**IV. Department Update**

The Special Education Department will be presenting resiliency data to principals at the principal's meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Principals will access information from the teacher portal and will discover information to create plans to help their schools, classes and individual students develop strategies that ensure students feel safe, engaged in school and are optimistic about the future and feel empowered. The Consultants and Behaviour Crisis Consultants will then meet with school teams consisting of the Principal, Special Education Resource Teacher and Student Support Worker to delve deeper into the data, share practices that have worked well and discuss and plan for new initiatives moving forward. This information will be shared with all staff at the school during a staff meeting.

The multi-disciplinary team continues to see growth in the students they have targeted. The "coaching" model has worked well and supports staff at the schools to make positive changes and to stay on track.

Dr. Hawes shared that CDSBEO is starting to get funding information and hopes to share more at the April meeting. Unfortunately, funding provided for local priorities has not been extended to the 2019-2020 school year.

**V. Presentation: Harry Potter Mental Health Project**

Claire Dulmage, Psychological Associate with CDSBEO presented the Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Novel Study (Harry Potter) with SEAC. The project is overseen by Dr. Mark Sinyor and Dr. Donaleen Hawes. Grade 7 and 8 students study the novel with an emphasis on CBT and how Harry sees the world. This is an innovative and experiential approach that may prevent the occurrence of later mental health related problem for students.

CDSBEO teachers were trained and were provided materials to deliver the differentiated lessons. Key learning points included distress and resiliency, how to normalize stress and an introduction to anxiety. Through Harry Potter, students discovered what their own stressors were, that thoughts are just ideas, how avoidance can make a situation worse and that it is important to do things even if they don't immediately result in benefits. Students explored what their "stress busters" were and how and when to use them. The project was well received by both teachers and students. This was evident in the testimonials that were shared. Students were able to identify positive mental health impacts and described the sheer joy and excitement of immersing themselves into the world of Harry Potter.

## **VI. Report to the Ministry of Education on the Provision of Special Education Programs and Services – June 2019**

Packages were shared which included the following sections;

- Section I – Introduction/Consultation Process
- Section III – Early Identification Procedures and Intervention Strategies
- Section V – Educational and other Assessments
- Section VII – Provincial and Demonstration Schools
- Section XIII – Coordination of Services with other Ministries or Agencies
- Section XIV – Specialized Health Support Services
- Section XV – Special Education Advisory Committee

## **VII. New Business**

A letter regarding the Ministry seven priorities over the next four years was drafted by SEAC and brought forward to the Board. The letter has been approved and sent to the Ministry.

## **VIII. Correspondence Received**

- Letter from the Durham District School Board’s Special Education Advisory Committee addressed to the Minister of Education re Special Education/SIP Funding

This letter was given to SEAC to review. SEAC will wait to see the impact of funding and then respond with a letter to the Ministry. SEAC will draft a letter to present in April.

## **IX. Motion to Excuse Regrets Received**

### **Motion:**

Motion to excuse Rob More, LLG FASD Support Network, Deena Shorkey, Children’s Mental Health Ontario, Amanda Banfield, Lanark County Support Services and Lorraine Boyer, Member-at-Large.

Moved by: Dave Conners

CARRIED

## **X. Next SEAC Meeting**

The next meeting of the CDSBEO Special Education Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Board Office, in Kemptville, starting at 6:00 p.m.

**XI. Good News Sharing**

Members and guests shared items of good news from across our eight counties.

**XII. Closing Prayer**

Heather Gerber led the group in the Board prayer.

**XIII. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

Moved by: Karen Moore

**CARRIED**

**CDSBEO SEAC Quorum Tracking**

	Trustee / Chair	Trustee	Assoc. for Community Living	Autism Ontario	LLG FASD Support Network	Lanark County Support Services	Member at Large – LB	CMH Ontario	Open Doors	<b>Total</b>
January	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	<b>8</b>
February	P	P	P	P	P				P	<b>6</b>
March										
April										
May										
June										

*New 4-year term of office effective December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.  
 (5 members are required to be in attendance in order to reach Quorum)*