



CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, January 29th, 2020

Board Office, Kemptville

6:00 p.m.

Present:

SEAC Members:

Sue Wilson (Chair), Trustee
Amanda Banfield (Vice Chair), Lanark
County Support Services
Karen McAllister, Trustee
Karen Moore, Open Doors for Lanark
Children and Youth
Deena Shorkey, Cornwall Community
Hospital
Rob More, Rural FASD Support Network
Shelley More, Rural FASD Support Network
(Alternate)

Approved Regrets with notification:

Fran Brauneisen, Association for Community
Living
Lorraine Boyer, Member at Large

Board Resource Staff:

Norma McDonald, Superintendent of School
Effectiveness
Heather Gerber, Principal of Special Education
Heather Bovey, Coordinator of Special
Education
Pat Cole, ABA Expertise Professional

Guests:

Rhonda Peterson, CUPE
Sharon Roche, Parent (St. Luke, Holy Cross)

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, "*New Year's Prayer*".

I. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Amanda Banfield

CARRIED

II. Sharing November 27th, 2019 Minutes

SEAC minutes were electronically approved on December 5th, 2019.

Motion:

To receive minutes as presented.

Moved by: Rob More

CARRIED

III. Association Updates

Association for Community Living – Fran Brauneisen

The Community Living Ontario contest called “Together We’re Better” is open again. There has always been knowledge of this contest in the past, but in this time of turmoil and dissension we should encourage more teachers to enter this as an antidote to potential dissatisfaction and resentment. We have a great deal of potential winners in our Board, we just need to shine a light on them.

Lanark County Support Services – Amanda Banfield

- There has been a staff development and training focus while partnering with other agencies in the county.
- Person-centered training will happen in February and the cost is \$50.
- The online training on disabilities is a great resource.
- There will be upcoming training for parents on understanding ODSP.

Rural FASD Support Network – Rob More

Upcoming Meetings or Conferences:

- February 15th, 2020 – Support Group Meeting with DoTerra rep involving essential oils followed by the AGM.
- February 24th, 2020 – 34 people presenting at Queen’s Park to the Legislative Assembly.

New Initiatives:

- Rural FASD Support Network is now a non-profit corporation with a focus on peer-led mental health support, providing education and training to service providers and the public, and serving as a voice for those needing additional supports.
- We will be having conversations with over 30 MPP’s including the Speaker of the House, the Education Critic, the Minister for People with Disabilities, the Deputy Minister for the NDP and the Youth Engagement Critic. The presentation will be videotaped and broadcasted afterwards. Our youth are being featured in a national campaign by Kids Brain

Health Network and CBC News and raised over \$8,000 to do this event by several local sponsors. Expect a major announcement on February 24th from the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility.

- With our non-profit designation, Children's Mental Health of Leeds-Grenville and Cornerstone Landing for youth homelessness are serving as our charitable registered organization depending on the funder. We are currently writing proposals for Bell Let's Talk, United Way, Perth Community Fund, Atkinson Foundation and Canopy Growth Enrichment Fund with the purpose of hiring a full-time employee to serve as our Executive Director, Event Coordinator and Job Developer.

Other Information:

- We now have a rep on the Open Doors Advisory Council.
- We are in conversations with Cogeco TV to create a mobile TV show focusing on FASD and broadcasting our events.
- CBC News is speaking with our police and mental health unit about writing a feature about the new model they have established to support people with mental health challenges.

Open Doors for Lanark Children and Youth – Karen Moore

- Planet Youth addiction prevention work has begun with CDSBEO. Surveys have been completed with all Grade 10 students.
- Open Doors will be doing training on attachment trauma and addiction for their staff.
- The agency received a grant for the "Families First" program which is intensive services in home from an evidenced based approach.
- Walk-in clinics are held across the county both day and evening. They are also in each high school, one day a week.
- Open Doors is in the midst of the accreditation process and is working towards positive outcomes.

Cornwall Community Hospital – Deena Shorkey

- The Hub opened in Cornwall and is fully staffed with a CAS worker, youth justice, adult health and addictions and a nurse practitioner. It is open to people 12-25 years of age and is located at 212 Pitt Street.
- A Bell Let's Talk celebration was held in the Mental Health building.
- The Ontario Perception of Care survey was completed by caregivers, 89% of respondents felt that their children are getting a high quality of service.
- Work is continuing on suicide prevention through collaboration with community partners.

IV. Department Update

In the fall, the department started a pilot to have Speech Language Pathologists do early assessments (Grade 1 and Grade 2) in order to provide timely feedback to schools on student needs. This action leaves more time for the Psychologists to conduct full assessments throughout the School Board.

There are some after school PD sessions taking place for staff that includes information on ASD.

Heather Gerber will attend a workshop on trauma.

CDSBEO is looking for a Mental Health and Addiction Professional in the western region as Jessie Burnie will be going on maternity leave.

Our first after school session on “Managing Challenging Behavior in the Early Years” was well attended and successful. These sessions have been postponed due to job action.

There will be a Skype session provided for Educational Assistants on January 31st, 2020. Our Speech Language Pathologists will present information on “Supporting Speech Language and Communication with Students to Support Independence”.

The Itinerant ABLE Workers and Student Support Workers will gather in Kemptville on January 31st, 2020 to discuss confidentiality, “Caring and Safe Schools for Special Education Students” and PTRs with an opportunity to share and learn about new resources.

Superintendent McDonald attended the Planet Youth launch along with Michelle Neville, Mental Health Lead and Theresa Lalonde Pankow, Principal of Religious Education. She expressed the impact of the collaborative model which is based on Iceland’s model that decreased addictions by 100%. The survey was revised, and the letter was revamped before it was sent home to families. We will survey every year for five years and hope to see a delay in the onset of the first use of drugs and/or alcohol.

Our schools were very active in the Bell Let’s Talk Day and have tweeted out pictures to keep the conversation going.

A joint meeting with the Renfrew Catholic District School Board was held with members of CDSBEO to look at mental health and best practices to incorporate spirituality.

V. Presentation: After School Social Skills Programs

CDSBEO presented proposals to the ministry and were provided funding to deliver various social skills programs throughout the Board. These programs include: PEERS, Art of Play, Art of Conversation, Art of Positive Interaction, Self-Awareness, Consolidation of Skills and FITA. Staff from schools were trained and work with students in their own schools. Principals, Vice Principals, Teachers, Student Support Workers, Educational Assistants and Early Childhood Educators have all taken the opportunity to lead the programs at various times in several locations. Each program is scripted, and materials are provided to school teams for ease of delivery. Data was collected, parents were well informed and asked for feedback. The data reflects growth in our students.

Pat Cole shared several videos to showcase the success of the programs. She delivers the programs after school and during the day through the gradual release model.

Lack of transportation has been a definite barrier because of the rural nature of our Board but is not included in the grant money. The funds cover training, materials and compensation. The ministry has provided two more years of funding after this year.

VI. New Business

- Proposed Calendar for 2020-2021 School Year
SEAC was pleased with the proposed calendar that was brought forward for consultation, starting prior to Labour Day and finishing earlier in June. This aligns with the Upper Canada District School Board as a cost saving measure as well.
- Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE) – Collaboration Form
The collaboration form was electronically sent to our MACSE representative on February 3rd, 2020 on behalf of SEAC. This form can be viewed in the attached document.

VII. Correspondence Received

- Letter from Durham District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee to the Minister of Education re the Ministry Advisory Committee on Special Education (MACSE)
- Email from Rob More, Rural FASD Support Network re Make the Cut Program, Carleton University-to present Feb. SAC meeting-Will invite all school principals and school councils
- Self-Care for Caregivers – FASD Group – February 5th, 2020-More information will be sent to Shelley from the Mores to add to minutes.

VIII. Motion to Excuse Regrets Received

Motion:

Motion to excuse Fran Brauneisen, Association for Community Living and Lorraine Boyer, Member-at-Large.

Moved by: Karen Moore

CARRIED

IX. Next SEAC Meeting

The next meeting of the CDSBEO Special Education Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, February 26th, 2020 at the Board Office, Kemptville, starting at 6:00 p.m.

X. Good News Sharing

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

XI. Closing Prayer

Heather Gerber led the group in the CDSBEO Board Prayer.

XII. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Moved by: Amanda Banfield

CARRIED

CDSBEO SEAC Quorum Tracking

	Trustee / Chair	Trustee	Assoc. for Community Living	Rural FASD Support Network	Lanark County Support Services	Member at Large – LB	Cornwall Community Hospital	Open Doors	Total
August	P	P	P	P	P		P		6
September	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	7
October	P	P	P	P	P		P	P	7
November – Meeting #1	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	7
November – Meeting #2	P	P	P	P	P	P		P	7
January	P	P		P	P		P	P	6
February									
March									
April									
May									
June									

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