



CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, January 30th, 2019

Board Office, Kemptville

6:00 p.m.

Present:

SEAC Members:

Sue Wilson (Chair), Trustee
Karen McAllister, Trustee
Fran Brauneisen, Association for Community
Living
Amanda Banfield, Lanark County Support
Services
Lorraine Boyer, Member-at-Large
Rob More, Rural FASD Support Network
Deena Shorkey, Children's Mental Health
Ontario
Karen Moore, Open Doors for Lanark
Children and Youth

Board Resource Staff:

Donaleen Hawes, Superintendent of School
Effectiveness
Heather Gerber, Principal of Special Education
Heather Bovey, Coordinator of Special
Education
Sandra O'Doherty, ABA Expertise Professional
Tiffany Ashford, Speech Language Pathologist
Janet Carioni, Occupational Therapist

Approved Regrets with notification:

Dave Conners (Vice Chair), Autism Ontario
Shelley More, Rural FASD Support Network
(Alternate)

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, "*A Prayer for the New Year*".

I. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Lorraine Boyer

CARRIED

II. Approval of Minutes – November 28th, 2018

SEAC minutes were electronically approved on December 12th, 2018.

Motion:

To receive minutes as presented.

Moved by: Fran Brauneisen (Meeting #1), Rob More (Meeting #2)

CARRIED

III. Association Updates

Association for Community Living – Fran Brauneisen

Upcoming Meetings or Conferences:

REACTION4INCLUSION Youth Leadership Summit, March 29th to 30th, 2019, Kingbridge Conference Centre and Institute, Jane Street, King City, Toronto.

New Initiatives:

- **reAction4inclusion** – the youth leadership wing of Community Living Ontario has set up a new website called “*Track the Movement*”. The online update will share stories, articles and profile young leaders to promote informed and connected youth across the province.
- The January update reviews 2018 and looks ahead to 2019 with workshops, the provincial summit and opportunities to learn about the 17 sustainable goals from the United Nations guidelines. The first four of these goals are:
 1. No Poverty
 2. Zero Hunger
 3. Good Health and Well-being
 4. Quality Education

The UN target date is 2030 for a world that is inclusive and developed with everyone in mind.

- Community Living is looking for stories of young people working to make their community stronger. Contact them to see if your story could be an online update in the future, www.REACTION4INCLUSION.COM.

Other Information:

Community Living North Grenville is hosting its 9th annual comedy night on April 20th, 2019 at the Municipal Centre, in Kemptville. There is a cake auction, silent and live auction,

refreshments and a cash bar. The headliner is Scott Falconbridge with two other comedy acts from Yuk Yuks. Tickets are \$50 per person, or a table of eight for \$350.

Lanark County Support Services – Amanda Banfield

The Gathering Grounds café, in Carleton Place has been running for two months. Specialty coffees are now being served and students began doing internships in December and January. Lanark County Support Services is partnering with other community agencies to provide more opportunities at the café for individuals with varying disabilities and mental health challenges.

Rural FASD Support Network – Rob More

Upcoming Meetings or Conferences:

- February 12th, 2019 – FASD Symposium, Toronto
- February 16th, 2019 – Rural FASD Support Group, 10:30 a.m., Stephen Bennett of HR Block presenting on tax credits
- February 20th, 2019 – FASD Workshop at Ottawa Catholic School Board
- February 26th, 2019 – Rural FASD Service Provider Workshop – sold out 40 spots in four days

New Initiatives:

- CanFASD released a new online course called Foundations of FASD. Free to the public. <https://estore.canfasd.ca/foundations-in-fasd>
- Ottawa FASD Group hosting Dr. Popova, the leading FASD researcher in Canada on January 24th, 2019.
- Rural FASD Support Network attending January 5th Senators game and featured on CBC Radio and #Sens Army.
- Rural FASD Support Group hosts Karen Moore and Mac the therapy dog on January 19th, 2019.
- Rural FASD launches new website at www.ruralfasd.ca
- Citizen Advocacy hosting Dr. Hanlon for medical professionals on February 14th, 15th, 2019.

Other Information:

MCCSS has not launched a new provincial website yet, however, queries are being made.

Children's Mental Health Ontario – Deena Shorkey

Children's Mental Health Ontario have been training in CBT, trauma, play therapy and grief. Their main focus is to build a mental health pathway and work with cross sectors to try to target at risk moms with newborns. They received a grant for the infant mental health project. Community response has been positive on messaging around social media and its impact on children's mental health.

Open Doors for Lanark Children and Youth – Karen Moore

Open Doors now has walk-in clinics for children and families. Parents can access information about mental health issues for their children. Staff are participating in trauma-informed CBT training and DDP training. They are increasing supports for trauma, addictions and mental health.

IV. Department Update

The Special Education Department had the opportunity to lead principals through their school EQAO data that focused on reading, writing and math. Principals compared the data for students with IEPs and for students without IEPs. Through this analysis, principals determined the strengths and needs of their schools in all three areas. This exercise provided them with the information needed to go back to their schools to plan next steps with their school teams and will help to inform the SIPSA.

The PA Day for Educational Assistants will be held on January 31st, 2019 via Skype. Members of the Special Education Team will be sharing ideas and strategies to support our special needs learners. Ideas will be shared around creating visual supports, sensory supports, speech language activities and assistive technology applications. After the morning session, Educational Assistants will have the opportunity to create materials to support the students they work with. They will be able to share their ideas with each other by posting the information on Office 365.

V. Presentation: Multi-disciplinary Approach to Assessment

The vision of the Multi-disciplinary Team is to look at students with complex multi-dimensional needs who are struggling. To look at these elements, all the team members are brought to the table to problem solve and come up with an individualized plan for the student. The team members include; Janet Carioni, Occupational Therapist, Sandra O'Doherty, ABA Expertise Professional, Leslie-Ann McLeod, ABA Expertise Professional and Tiffany Ashford, Speech Language Pathologist.

The privacy statement and referral process was shared with SEAC members. It was explained that once the student has been referred by the principal or a consultant in the Special Education Department, the multi-disciplinary team members gather information, go into the school to observe, assess, and discuss what they have seen through the lens of their different disciplines. The support is dynamic and includes trialing strategies, modelling, adapting and adjusting goals and strategies as the needs of the students and school change.

A case study was shared highlighting the presenting needs of a child and the clinical observations from the multi-disciplinary team. The recommendations for the student included a sample of a visual schedule and a communication system. This student is now using the system to express choices. A First, ... Then board and sensory activities were also introduced to support the student. The team will continue to revisit the programming and support school staff to implement it as the students' needs evolve.

The philosophy for this approach to special education is summed up nicely in the following quote: "*When a flower doesn't bloom you fix the environment in which it grows, not the flower*".

VI. New Business

- **Draft School Year Calendar 2019-2020**
The new revised proposed school year calendar was shared and the time to give feedback will be extended.
- **Representative – Easter Seals Ontario**
No Easter Seals Ontario report.

VII. Correspondence Received

- Letter from the Special Education Advisory Committee to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic DSB to the Minister of Education – Support of Bill 44

VIII. Motion to Excuse Regrets Received

Motion:

Motion to excuse Dave Connors (Vice Chair), Autism Ontario and Shelley More, Rural FASD Support Network (Alternate).

Moved by: Lorraine Boyer

CARRIED

IX. Next SEAC Meeting

The next meeting of the CDSBEO Special Education Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, February 27th, 2019 at the Board Office, in 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 Board prayer.

XII. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Moved by: Lorraine Boyer

CARRIED

CDSBEO SEAC Quorum Tracking

	Trustee / Chair	Trustee	Assoc. for Community Living	Autism Ontario	Rural FASD Support Network	Lanark County Support Services	Member at Large – LB	CMH Ontario	Open Doors	Total
January	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	8
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)*