



# CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

Box 2222, 2755 Highway 43 - Kemptville, Ontario - K0G 1J0  
Phone: 613-258-7757 Toll-Free: 1-800-443-4562 Fax: 613-258-7134  
www.cdsbeo.on.ca



## MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 Microsoft Teams – 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

### **Present:**

#### **SEAC Members:**

Sue Wilson (Chair), Trustee  
Karen McAllister, Trustee  
Karen Moore, Open Doors for Lanark  
Children and Youth  
Rob More, Rural FASD Support Network  
Tom Jordan, Family and Children's Services of  
Lanark, Leeds and Grenville  
Shelley More, Rural FASD Support Network  
(Alternate)

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

Heather Gerber, Superintendent of School  
Effectiveness  
Renee Rozon, Principal of Special Education  
Heather Bovey, Coordinator of Special  
Education

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

Amanda Banfield (Vice Chair), Lanark County  
Support Services  
Deena Shorkey, Cornwall Community Hospital

#### **Guests:**

Rhonda Peterson, CUPE  
Liz McCormick, Curriculum Consultant –  
CDSBEO  
Dan Lortie, Career Counsellor – CDSBEO  
Lorraine Boyer, Parent, Pope John Paul II and  
St. Francis Xavier CHS, Hammond

### **Meeting Called to Order**

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

Sue sent her thoughts and prayers out to the Reil and Rozon families due to their recent losses. She expressed that she is thinking of all staff and students looking forward to a break and hoping it will be able to proceed, depending on the Health Units throughout the province.

### **Opening Prayer**

Renee Rozon led the group in a prayer entitled, "*God the Holy Spirit*". The Land Acknowledgement was introduced with a reflection and recited by Superintendent Gerber.

**I. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Tom Jordan

CARRIED

**II. Sharing March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 Minutes**

SEAC minutes were electronically approved on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.

**Motion:**

To receive minutes as presented.

Moved by: Tom Jordan

CARRIED

**III. Association Updates**

**Rural FASD Support Network – Rob More**

No update at this time.

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

- Open Doors staff are thrilled to have been part of sanctuary training. This is trauma informed training and looks at individuals and the agencies relationship with the community.
- Agency recently finished the accreditation process.
- A pilot project to promote youth engagement involves program staff reaching out and making staff accessible to students who are not attending school by going to the student's home by van.
- Referrals continue to grow, and the agency is worried about youth who are not accessing services.

**Family and Children's Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville – Tom Jordan**

**Initiatives:**

International Women's Day (IWD) "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world" – Family and Children's Services of LLG was proud to recognize International Women's Day on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021. As a predominantly female workforce, we recognize the multiple burdens that the pandemic has placed upon women, including our employees, who rise to the call every day to support our service recipients, so many of whom are women and girls rising to their own challenges during this COVID -19 crisis. There have been so many women who have somehow balanced child rearing, child educating, work and career, and community building throughout the last year – a tremendous "hats off" to our entire community of innovative, strong, brave, and resilient women leaders in Lanark, Leeds, and Grenville! To learn more about IWD and the theme this year, please visit:

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2020/11/announcer-international-womens-day-2021>.

March is National Social Work Month – In recognition of National Social Work Month, FCSLLG salutes our social workers and child protection workers in child welfare. We commend their tireless efforts to protect and improve the safety and well-being of at-risk children and youth, and the critical role they play in supporting vulnerable families in difficult times. The enthusiasm, passion and dedication they demonstrate in providing services and supports to children, youth and their families are especially noteworthy.

Social workers and child protection workers providing child protection services possess a highly valued repertoire of clinical skills, expertise and knowledge regarding factors that have resulted in contact with the child welfare system. You give the assistance and guidance children and youth need to successfully transition to adulthood.

As social workers, they help families deal with life stressors and challenges. Ultimately, they make a significant contribution to the lives of children and families. Their impact is meaningful and long-lasting, and their commitment is inspiring.

FCSLLG extends best wishes to all social workers and child protection workers in child welfare during National Social Work Month and throughout the year.

#### **IV. Department Update**

The Department is working on the High Needs list for EA staffing. The consultants have provided detailed student information for all schools.

Interviews for EAs have continued in order to fill vacancies and hopefully to hire for casual positions as well.

The Assistive Technology EA position has been filled by Julie Marshall and her start date is to be determined as we need to backfill her position first.

An Itinerant ABLÉ *Preference* Form was created and distributed to Itinerant ABLÉ Workers in planning for next year to give IAWs a voice and review placements to hopefully help prevent burnout in programs.

An IAW electronic request form to be used by schools to request support should be ready to be shared with principals soon.

The migration of our data from the Special Education SharePoint site [Special Education - Home \(sharepoint.com\)](#) to a new team in Teams has now been completed.

At a recent Stability Funding meeting, we were looking into the possibility of Dr. Cathy Blackstock from First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada presenting to CDSBEO families during Catholic Education Week.

Mary Kate Bridson's video won second place in the Community Living Contest and was shared with SEAC members. Superintendent Gerber will share the video with Fran Brauneisen.

When making decisions about SERT staffing, we are ensuring equity by looking at the percentage of IEPs in a school as well as student population. A meeting to decide where to allocate system investment support was recently held with OECTA.

## **V. Presentation: Dual Credit**

Dual credit programs are programs approved by the Ministry of Education that allow students enrolled in secondary school to take college courses, or apprenticeship courses delivered by a college and to have those courses count towards both their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) and a post-secondary certificate, diploma, degree, or Certificate of Apprenticeship (Dual Credit Programs, Policy and Program Requirements, 2020).

This program was created in 2005 to increase student success and improve graduation rates and post-secondary applications. The emphasis was to ensure that students and families valued college and apprenticeship programs and understood the opportunities these programs provided for students. It has helped students become more aware of life after secondary school, demystified the process and ensured a smooth transition. The primary focus is on students who face significant challenges in completing the requirements for high school graduation but have the potential to succeed in college or apprenticeship. All costs of the program are covered by the Ministry of Education. This includes tuition fees, books, and travel expenses.

The five types of programs include: Congregated, Integrated, Team-Taught, OYAP Level 1, and SWAC.

- In the Congregated option all students are high school students, taking a college course with a college instructor, on the college campus – 1 class per week for 14 weeks.
- The Integrated approach takes a small number of high school students who take a college course with college students and a college instructor, on the college campus – 1 class per week for 14 weeks.
- The curriculum is delivered by both the college instructor and the secondary teacher in the high school setting for the Team-Taught approach.
- OYAP Level 1 can be congregated or integrated and be a continuous block of 8-10 weeks, typically Monday to Friday.
- SWAC (school within a college program) students attend college for the entire semester. Students work towards high school credits, take one dual credit and a co-op placement. The change in environment has shown a positive increase in success rate for students who have struggled in a typical high school environment. The Specialist High Skills Major allows students to earn a college credit while also obtaining a credit towards their OSSD and SHSM seal.

All of these options have been given to many students on IEP's and they have seen great success in completing the programs and finding quality job opportunities.

## **VI. New Business**

- SEAC Presentations – April to June 2021
  - April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 – Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) Report
  - May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – Bonnie Norton and Ashley Hutchinson to provide budget information and SEAC can make recommendations (providing the GSNs that have been released by the government).
  - May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 – Finalize annual report and SEAC can make recommendations.
- Recommendation was noted to continue SEAC meetings virtually in the Fall. If there are other recommendations, please send them to [Shelley.Strickland@cdsbeo.on.ca](mailto:Shelley.Strickland@cdsbeo.on.ca) and we will add them to the agenda.
- Superintendent Gerber proposed having a presentation on Executive Functioning at the SEAC meeting on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.
- One school is partnering their Multiple Exceptionalities Program with their Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program to build a greenhouse and community outreach. This could be an interesting future topic at the SEAC meeting on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

## **VII. Report to the Ministry of Education on the Provision of Special Education Programs and Services – June 2021**

The following sections were shared:

- Section IV – Identification, Placement and Review
- Section VI – Special Education Placements Provided by the Board

## **VIII. Correspondence Received**

- Letter from Hastings and Prince Edward DSB re prioritization of vaccinations during Phase II in support of students with Special Education Needs and their staff.

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

### **Motion:**

Motion to excuse Amanda Banfield (Vice Chair), Lanark County Support Services and Deena Shorkey, Cornwall Community Hospital.

Moved by: Karen Moore

CARRIED

**X. Next SEAC Meeting**

The next meeting of the CDSBEO Special Education Advisory Committee will be held virtually on Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 starting at 6:00 p.m. The presentation topic will be the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) Report.

**XI. Good News Sharing**

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

**XII. Closing Prayer**

Renee Rozon led the group in the CDSBEO Board Prayer.  
 Sue Wilson (Chair) wished everyone a blessed Easter.

**XIII. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

Moved by: Tom Jordan

**CARRIED**

**CDSBEO SEAC Quorum Tracking**

	Trustee / Chair	Trustee	Rural FASD Support Network	Lanark County Support Services	Cornwall Community Hospital	Open Doors for Lanark Children and Youth	Family and Children Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville	Assoc. for Community Living *Resigned September 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	Member-at-Large (vacant)	<b>Total</b>
August 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	P	P	P	P		P				<b>5</b>
September 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	P	P	P		P	P				<b>5</b>
October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	P	P	P	P		P				<b>5</b>
Nov 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2020 – Meeting #1	P	P	P	P	P		P			<b>6</b>
Nov 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2020 – Meeting #2	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			<b>7</b>
January 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	P	P	P	P	P		P			<b>6</b>
March 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2021	P	P	P	P	P		P			<b>6</b>
March 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2021	P	P	P			P	P			<b>5</b>
April										
May										
June										

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