



# 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, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 Microsoft Teams – 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

### **Present:**

#### **SEAC Members:**

Sue Wilson, (Chair)

*Trustee*

Amanda Banfield (Vice Chair)

*Lanark County Support Services*

Karen McAllister

*Trustee*

Rob More

*Rural FASD Support Network*

Deena Shorkey

*Cornwall Community Hospital*

Shelley More

*Rural FASD Support Network (Alternate)*

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

Tom Jordan

*Family and Children Services of Lanark,*

*Leeds, and Grenville*

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

Heather Gerber

*Superintendent of School Effectiveness*

Renee Rozon

*Principal of Special Education*

Kariane Schinzel

*Administrative Assistant to Superintendent Gerber*

#### **Guests:**

Tracey Clarke

*Chair OCSB SEAC*

Deborah Terrance

*Independent First Nations Federal Education Senior*

*Policy Analyst*

Rhonda Peterson

*CUPE*

Olivia Nault

Julianne Gauthier

Stacey Wahler

### **Welcome, Introductions and Roll Call**

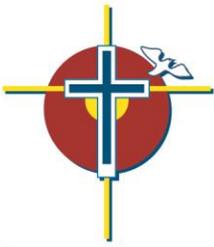
Sue Wilson (Chair) called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed all members and guests.

#### **Roll Call**

**Absent:** Tom Jordan, Family and Children Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville

### **Land Acknowledgement**

Superintendent Heather Gerber Acknowledged the Land.



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## Opening Prayer

Principal Rozon led the group in the opening prayer.

### I. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Rob More

CARRIED

### II. Sharing June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Minutes

SEAC minutes were electronically approved on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

#### Motion:

To receive minutes as presented.

Moved by: Amanda Banfield

CARRIED

### III. Association Updates

#### Lanark County Support Services – Amanda Banfield

- Continuing with the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations

#### Rural FASD Support Network – Rob More

Upcoming Meetings or Conferences:

- Sept 18, 2021 Caregiver Group with Dr. Alan Bocking, MD
- Sept 25, 2021 RFASD Girl's Group
- Sept 11, 2021 RFASD Boy's Group

New Initiatives:

- OTF Family Innovation Scale Application being submitted with Open Doors of LCY serving as organizational mentor and charitable partner.
- RFASD asked and submitted a letter of support for the Coalition for Canadian Police Reform for Federal Regulatory Police College.
- RFASD has developed a 15 minute presentation in support of Bill 172 and will give a preview of the half-day and full day training educational training module. Theresa Lalonde-Pankow serves as the presenter. Module developed by an advisory committee consisting of a psychologist, occupational therapist, pediatrician, speech-language pathologist, mental health clinician, former and current educational admins, and CanFASD Instructional Designer.



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- RFASD Youth hosted a full-day fair on Aug 19 in Montague Township for 33 people with FASD and their caregivers from the Ottawa Valley celebrating their skills and strengths. All three levels of government were also represented. Four new families came and 380 new touchpoints were generated.

## Other Information:

- RFASD website is under construction and hopefully will be launched by Oct 31.
- Shannon Russell is the new FASD worker for Lanark and Leeds-Grenville, from Kids Inclusive Beckwith Tech Camp, hosted a graphic design course over the summer partnership with Beckwith Township being explored to offer inexpensive graphic design option for individuals and small businesses.
- RFASD sitting on Quality Health Standards Committee representing lived experience related to transitional planning in Ontario.
- Due to OTF application environmental scan, RFASD is currently the largest non-profit organization in Ontario consisting entirely of lived disability experience. We have experienced a 67% growth in the past 9 months with 140 families and 510 people with lived experience now. We now have connections with FASD support groups from Quebec, New Brunswick, Hawaii and Australia attending our virtual support groups.

## **Cornwall Community Hospital – Deena Shorkey**

- Referrals are back to normal with an expected typical increase end of September
- Wait time for clients that are not prioritized is estimated at two months
- Continuing to see a level of complexity of severe anxiety and depression
- Adding more master's degree prepared therapists, need for a higher level of expertise
- Children expressing significant anxiety with back to school, offering support groups
- 50/50 split of in office and virtual service
- Will be resuming school-based services, school boards allowing as an essential service
- Youth hub is continuing to operate in Cornwall and Rockland
- Looking to offer some in person groups in the Youth hub
- Youth hub will start to offer support services once a week, in Embrun, Alexandria, Hawkesbury and Winchester, so that children can access services (employment, mental health services, addiction, and health care services through the nurse.)
- Starting a Board for the Hub, four youth, (two from Prescott-Russell and two from SDG that are joining, two parents and four agencies) – hoping to find two more parents to make it 4/4/4, to help codesign the services in the Hub
- Looking to increase awareness to recent tragedy in Cornwall, have spoken to Mental Health and Addictions nurse who works with the Catholic School Board, to keep an eye on possible issues that may present for when school opens

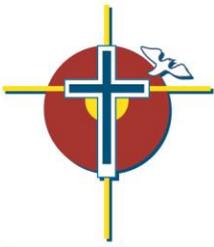


**Family and Children's Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville – Tom Jordan**

No update at this time.

**IV. Department Update**

1. Our Summer Transition Program took place this past week in five CDSBEO schools to support the return to in class learning for many students in special education programs. The program began with a day for the teacher and EAs to review IEPs, other relevant information about their students, and to plan for the week. Activities that took place included practicing daily routines, such as arrival, washroom, recess, lunch, and departure procedures. Students had opportunities to walk around their schools and practice fire procedures. They also had the opportunity to participate in social-emotional lessons, reinforce skills, and complete language and math activities.
2. The annual Learning Fair for educators took place yesterday. The Special Education Department offered two workshops:
  - 'Programming for Students Accessing Learning Through Alternative Expectations: Where Do I Begin? Steps to Measure Student Success Using a Behavioural Lens' (Presenter: Sandra O'Doherty, Behaviour Analyst)
  - 'Breaking the Code with Decodable Books' by our Speech and Language Department team and was an extension to the Science of Reading in services that took place last year.
3. Many informative sessions are taking place for all staff over the three PD days this week including Information on Medical Plans of care, learning recovery, intervention strategies and reengagement. Our board Occupational Therapist, Janet Carioni, and Mental health Lead, Michelle Neville, presented on Mental Health and Well-being – "A Mentally Healthy Return to School". In this presentation, staff learned about the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on children, youth and families and explored strategies to incorporate in their teaching.
4. With the addition of a Mental Health professional, we are now able to offer counselling support to our elementary schools and will have one counsellor for the western region and one counsellor for the eastern region.



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## V. Student Re-Engagement Presentation – Heather Gerber

Superintendent Gerber shared the CDSBEO re-engagement plan as well as some of the current thinking on what educators, schools and the board can do to help students re-engage with school and learning. The focus, this year, is on making students feel welcome in our midst and that students and their mental wellness are supported. This is important given that it is social connectedness that provides the energy for cognitive engagement. Providing a learning lift for students who may have experienced learning loss due the pandemic will be ongoing throughout the school year as educators work collaboratively with students and families to ensure student success.

## VI. Review of SEAC Goals/Priorities and Presentations for the 2021-2022 school year.

- To continue SEAC meetings virtually in the Fall
- Advise Special Education training to SEAC representatives on Catholic School Council
- Coordinate communications to families regarding Mental Health initiatives and support services

Topics for Presentations for 2021-2022 school year:

Presentations	Date
<b>Student Re-engagement</b>	Wednesday, Sept 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2021
<b>Executive Functioning</b>	Wednesday, Sept 29, 2021
<b>Student Success</b>	
<b>Vision and Hearing</b>	
<b>Behaviour Management Systems</b>	
<b>Notre Dame Greenhouse Project</b>	
<b>Human Trafficking</b>	
<b>Student Re-engagement follow up presentation with Principal Panel</b>	



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## VII. New Business

- Karen Moore resignation announcement from SEAC committee and ‘Open Doors for Lanark Children and Youth (resignation letter read)  
Moved by: Rob More Approved by: Amanda Banfield CARRIED
- Re-entry plan review – link to CDSBEO website Re-entry Plan 2021  
[Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario \(cdsbeo.on.ca\)](http://Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario (cdsbeo.on.ca))
- New Membership
  - Kim Peterson - official application to join CDSBEO's SEAC as a community member at large.
  - Reference letter read by Sue Wilson, from Manon Seguin (OCSB), Superintendent of Special Education and Student Services on behalf of Kim Peterson

Motion to recommend Kim Peterson to sit as a member at large on our SEAC committee  
Moved by: Deena Shorkey CARRIED

Recommendation will move forward to the Board of Trustees on September 21<sup>st</sup> for their consideration for Kim Peterson to sit on our SEAC committee for the remainder of this term of office. (The term of SEAC office ends November 30<sup>th</sup> of 2022.) Reminder, those members that are wanting to sit on the 2022-2023 year will have to have their letter in to the committee for the end of November. It will be forwarded to the newly elected Board of Trustees, that would be for a four-year term. Once the recommendation has gone forward to the board and upon approval, the Director of Education will send out a welcome letter on behalf of the Board of Trustees along with the Chair of the Board.

## VIII. Correspondence Received

- Letter from Kenora Catholic DSB – Support for Bill 172  
(seventh letter that we’ve have received in support of Bill 172)

## IX. Motion to Excuse Regrets Received

### Motion:

Motion to excuse Tom Jordan, Family and Children’s Services of Lanark, Leeds, and Grenville

Moved by: Rob More

CARRIED



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## X. Next SEAC Meeting

The next meeting of the CDSBEO Special Education Advisory Committee will be held virtually on Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021, starting at 6:00 p.m.

- Follow up with sound clip from the Re-Engagement presentation.

## XI. Good News Sharing

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

## XII. Closing Prayer

Principal Rozon led the group in the CDSBEO Board Prayer.

## XIII. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Moved by: Tom Jordan

CARRIED

### CDSBEO SEAC Quorum Tracking

	Chair, Trustee	Vice Chair, Lanark County Support Services	Trustee	Rural FASD Support Network	Cornwall Community Hospital	Family and Children Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville	Member at Large (Vacant)	Total
September 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2021	P	P	P	P	P	x		5
September 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2021								
October 27, 2021								
November 24, 2021								
January 26, 2022								
February 23, 2022								
March 30, 2022								
April 27, 2022								
May 25, 2022								

(4 members are required to be in attendance in order to reach Quorum)