



CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, November 27th, 2019 – Meeting #1

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
Lorraine Boyer, Member-at-Large
Fran Brauneisen, Association for Community
Living
Karen Moore, Open Doors for Lanark
Children and Youth
Rob More, Rural FASD Support Network

Approved Regrets with notification:

Deena Shorkey, Cornwall Community
Hospital
Shelley More, Rural FASD Support Network
(Alternate)

Board Resource Staff:

Norma McDonald, Superintendent of School
Effectiveness
Heather Gerber, Principal of Special Education
Heather Bovey, Coordinator of Special
Education

Guests:

Rhonda Peterson, CUPE
Valerie Winn-Paul, Parent, St. Joseph Catholic
School, Gananoque (via phone)

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, “*Dear God*”.

I. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Lorraine Boyer

CARRIED

II. Sharing October 30th, 2019 Minutes

SEAC minutes were electronically approved on November 7th, 2019.

Motion:

To receive minutes as presented.

Moved by: Fran Brauneisen

CARRIED

III. Association Updates

Association for Community Living – Fran Brauneisen

- Ladies Night was very successful on November 15th. The event sold out in advance. The feedback from those in attendance was appreciated. It will be taken into consideration in planning for next year's event.
- The report from CARF was received and the Association for Community Living was awarded a 3-year accreditation again. This is very rewarding since everyone works hard to achieve this success and values this endorsement from such a specialized and international organization.
- Building is proceeding on the Community Housing Project. Physical evidence is available at street level. When completed, there will be 11 units available for public housing. On December 4th, 2019 Community Living North Grenville is hosting a Christmas Tea at the Kemptville Pentecostal Church, on Highway 43, to thank the public for their support over the past year and to wish them the joy of the season.

Lanark County Support Services – Amanda Banfield

- There are no new initiatives to report.
- There is a video of the café on the website. A webinar called Awesome Ottawa will be highlighting the café and will feature Kenneth Pope on December 4th, 2019.

Rural FASD Support Network – Rob More

Upcoming Meetings or Conferences:

- Nov 16th, 2019 – Calvary Bible Church, Smiths Falls, 10:30 a.m. – Kim Bennett, SLP
- Nov 27th, 2019 – Renfrew Support Group, hosting Jeff Noble

New Initiatives:

- New research study on the link between FASD and ADHD started.
- Forty-seven people confirmed going to Queen's Park on February 24th, 2020 including 15 youth with FASD.

- Cornerstone Landing organizing a meeting with community partners to look at creating a tiny home village.
- CanFASD including new document from Duke University in their Educator Level 2 course, which gives a complete educational strategy on supporting students with FASD. <https://sites.duke.edu/fasd/download>

Other Information:

- Seven MPP's have already confirmed attendance on February 24th, 2020.
- Ninety percent of children with FASD have articulation challenges. Articulation challenges at age 3-5 lead to poorer social skills, which leads to isolation then mental health challenges and finally increased vulnerabilities and at-risk behaviour later in life.

Open Doors for Lanark Children and Youth – Karen Moore

- There has been a steady increase in referrals. Secondary school programs are being offered once a week and clinics will be increased in January. Clients do not have to be waitlisted and are seen, as needed. They can return for further counselling as needed.
- Mac had his birthday and a Facebook contest was held to celebrate his birthday. Mac has been hanging out with the youth program, building bridges program and goes to meetings.

IV. Department Update

The Special Education Team meet on a regular basis and will be producing Skype sessions on various topics beginning in January. Margaret McKenna, Assistive Technology Educational Assistant has developed sessions on Read&Write and they have been well received.

The Special Education Consultants are partnering with the Curriculum Department for after school sessions to support Early Years educators with strategies to manage challenging behaviour. These sessions will be held in January and February throughout the CDSBEO.

The PA Day on November 29th, 2019 will focus on health and safety, well-being and math.

Heather Gerber will be taking an AQ Special Education for Administrators course beginning in January.

The second CRIS meeting was held for Curriculum, Religion, ICT and Special Education departments. Janet Carioni spoke on the topic of FASD.

CDSBEO was chosen by the Ministry to present to the province on our After School Social Skills Programs.

Interviews are being held next week for Educational Assistants.

V. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Moved by: Rob More

CARRIED