
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023
VIRTUAL, MICROSOFT TEAMS – 6:05 PM TO 7:15PM

SEAC Members:

Donna Nielsen (Chair)

Trustee

Natalie Cameron (Vice Chair)

*Children's Aid Society
of the United Counties of SD&G*

Karen McAllister

Trustee

Tom Jordan

*Family and Children Services of Lanark,
Leeds, and Grenville*

Cathy Bridson

Rural FASD Support Network

Natasha Scott

*Child and Youth Mental Health Services
Cornwall Community Hospital*

Board Resource Staff:

Norma McDonald

Superintendent of School Effectiveness

Angela McNamee

Principal of Special Education

Kariane Schinzel

*Administrative Assistant to
Superintendent Gerber*

Guests:

Victoria Storaas

CDSBEO, Applied Behavioural Analysis Expertise Professional

Natalie Hollands

CDSBEO, Educational Assistant

Rhonda Peterson

CUPE

Approved regrets with notification:

Anna Lafrance, Easter Seals

Nicole Taylor, Autism Ontario - East Region

Sue Wilson, Alt. Trustee

Judith Peak, Alt. Rural FASD Support Network

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND ROLL CALL

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Donna Nielsen acknowledged the Land.

3. OPENING PRAYER

Principal Angela McNamee led the group in opening prayer.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by: Tom Jordan CARRIED

5. RECEIVING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 22, 2023, MEETING

SEAC minutes were electronically approved on February 27th, 2023.

Motion:

To receive minutes as presented.

Moved by: Karen McAllister CARRIED

6. PRESENTATION:

Sonderly Learning: An educational training platform for educators seeking to learn more about autism and mental health.

Presenter: Victoria Storaas, CDSBEO, Applied Behavioural Analysis Expertise Professional

- Ministry funded professional development, topics pertaining to Autism and Applied Behaviour Analysis.
 - Delivered through the Geneva Center for Autism's on-line learning platform, *Sonderly*.
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- Offered to all school boards across Ontario.
- Participants complete course work at their own pace.
- Courses are to be completed by the end of the current school year, (approximately six months).
- Topics for 2022-2023
 - Applied Behaviour Analysis – Level 1
 - Applied Behaviour Analysis – Level 2
 - ADHD in the Classroom
 - Core Teaching Strategies for Students with Autism
 - Supporting Play-Based Learning for Kids with ASD
 - Understanding and Supporting Students with Autism

7. ASSOCIATION UPDATES:

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

Report update:

- FCSLLG is in the process of updating/revising a number of policies around the use of technology within the agency:
 - Asset Management
 - Acceptable Use Form for Agency Owned Devices
 - Change Management Policy
 - Mobile Device and Computer Media Policy and Procedures
 - Malicious Software
 - Passwords
 - Scheduled Downtime

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- SOCIAL WORK WEEK AND NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH (MARCH 6 TO 12 WAS SOCIAL SOCIAL WORK WEEK IN ONTARIO, AND ACROSS CANADA; MARCH IS NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH) AND INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY, MARCH 9TH, WERE CELEBRATED AND PROMOTED WITHIN FCSLLG.
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Rural FASD Support Network – Cathy Bridson

Report update:

- At our 2023 AGM meeting that was held on February 18th, we announced a few new positions within our Board of Directors at Rural FASD. We thank our BOD members who have retired their positions with us; Shelley More, David Laliberte and Mary-Kate Bridson. We welcome our new Directors of the Board, Michelle Kilner, Stacey Crosbie, Malcolm MacIntosh and Patrick Ross. We also thank Rob More, Steve Bridson and Mark De Rose for agreeing to serve as our Executives this year.

Updated BOD Positions as follows:

Angela De Rose - Individual with FASD rep

Rob More – Chair

Mark De Rose – Secretary

Steve Bridson – Treasurer

Michelle Kilner – member-at-large and fundraising

Diane Greer – member-at-large and Leeds-Grenville rep

Derek Leach – member-at-large and children rep

Stacey Crosbie – member-at-large and fundraising

Malcolm MacIntosh – member-at-large and adult rep

Patrick Ross – member-at-large and project management

- This coming April, these Board of Directors will gather and take part in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Training by Chéla Breckon, owner of With Chéla Inc. Chéla uses her skills and knowledge to help individuals and organizations meet their growth objectives with oppressive outcomes for change and to meet the needs of their people and the communities in which they serve.
- Rural FASD Support Network has been busy gathering data as our year end is near. While working closely with our evaluation coach, Eva Maxwell, we are working on a progress report for the Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF). The purpose of this report is to give YOF an idea of what activities took place this year, our successes, our challenges, and our accomplishments thus far.
- During our March caregiver support meeting, Karen Moore, from the Adoption Council of Ontario held a workshop based on the 7 Core Issues of Permanency Workbook: A Guide to Help Explore Feelings and Overcome Emotional Challenges in Your Family. During this educational workshop participants explored how to use the workbook as caregivers or youths/adults and how loss and trauma is associated with them on their permanency journeys (adoption, foster care, kinship care, customary care).

- Rural FASD's, Shelley More (Executive Director), Judith Peak (Program Coordinator), Samantha Tse (Program and Marketing Assistant) and Claudia Reed (MSW Student) have recently participated in a Family and Community Wellness Fair in Smiths Falls. Connectwell Community Health organized this event in early March and was accompanied by Smiths Falls Mayor, Shawn Pankow. At this event, Rural FASD was able to raise awareness of both Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and our organization, as well as connect with service providers and community members.

Child and Youth Mental Health Services – Natasha Scott

Report update:

- Training is complete for all staff in registered positions in all three core services in our community (CYMHS, Equipe psycho-sociale, and Laurencrest) for Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behaviour Therapy and the other staff in non-registered positions have completed training in Attachment, Regulation and Competency Framework.
- One Stop Talk: two staff have been trained and have officially launched the service. Information has been sent to the waitlisted children and youth as a service to offer single session therapy while they are waiting for services.
- The advanced Mental Health and Autism training is scheduled for April.

Autism Ontario, East Region – Nicole Taylor *(provided digital report)*

Report update:

- Celebrate the Spectrum:
 - Celebrate the Spectrum is our theme for World Autism Day 2023 celebrations. It is an opportunity for positive action to provide spaces of support and advocacy for our diverse communities while learning about autism and how to make our communities better for people on the autism spectrum. The campaign is flexible, and there are many great ways to get your students involved, including:
 - Registering for the Celebrate the Spectrum School Giving Challenge and fundraise in support of Autism Ontario
 - Creating a 'strengths link' with your class
 - Donating to Autism Ontario
 - Autism Ontario is launching Celebrate the Spectrum to enhance our activities and celebrations throughout the whole month of April.
 - Elementary and Secondary Toolkits can be downloaded here: <https://celebratethespectrum.com/toolkits/>
 - Sign your school up at <https://www.autismontario.com/CTS-Form>

- <https://celebratethespectrum.com/>

If you are interested in participating in our Celebrate the Spectrum campaign, you can connect with your local Autism Ontario Region or email celebratethespectrum@autismontario.com

- Celebrate the Spectrum School Giving Challenge:
 - Students and their schools are some of our most active supporters. In honour of these young autism champions, we're launching the Celebrate the Spectrum School Giving Challenge which will run throughout April. The school that raises the most donations in support of Autism Ontario will be eligible to win special recognition including an article in Autism Matters magazine. Each school's top fundraising student will be eligible for a chance to win an iPad! More detail and the registration form can be found through the Celebrate the Spectrum website at <https://celebratethespectrum.com/school-giving-challenge/>
 - Please help us promote this challenge with your schools and school board, let's urge all our school contacts to register and challenge a rival school!
- Autism Ontario's Fund Development Department will be mailing trustees and schools to encourage participation over the next month. Keep your eyes open for updates and if you'd like more detail, please contact Erin Cunningham at erin.cunningham@autismontario.com
- If you are looking for more information on local events to share with your SEAC, Autism Ontario's regional newsletters are an excellent source of information. To see what newsletters are available and to sign up, visit <https://www.autismontario.com/newsletter>
- 2023 Scholarship Opportunities
Autism Ontario' Education Scholarships open on April 1, 2023. For eligibility criteria and information on how to apply visit: <https://www.autismontario.com/programs-services/adults/awards-and-funding/scholarships> or email scholarships@autismontario.com
 - Eleanor Ritchie Education Scholarship: \$500 for individuals on the autism spectrum entering their first year of a post-secondary program
 - Jeanette Holden Education Scholarship: \$500 for siblings of individuals on the autism spectrum entering their first year of a post-secondary program
 - MacDonald Family Education Scholarship: \$500 for students with a parent on the autism spectrum entering their first year of a post-secondary program

Children's Aid Society of the United Counties SD&G – Natalie Cameron

Report update:

- The Ministry of Community and Social Services has come up with a policy document 'Ready Set Go Guide' that will lead Children's Aids across the province. There is a large component on education and planning for our youth after grade 12. Youth up to age 23 will be supported within CAS to help support future opportunities for success in work placement, internship, budgeting, etc.

Easter Seals Ontario – Anna Lafrance

Report update: n/a

8. DEPARTMENT UPDATE – PRINCIPAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION, ANGELA MCNAMEE

- During the month of March, SERTs and Special Education Consultants are busy reviewing Special Education student data in Aspen to ensure it is ready to be uploaded for the March 31st OnSIS. The Special Education Consultants have facilitated 4 training sessions for SERTs as well as administrators to review the steps in the OnSIS review procedure as well as the IPRC process.
- School teams are continuing to collaborate with feeder schools and student families to review and implement transition plans for our students with Special Education needs. For all students identified as exceptional, IPRC review meetings are completed annually with the family and school team.
- The Special Education department is reviewing schools' special education needs for next year and will continue to plan for a successful start for September. Our consultants and Special Education Principal have been meeting with school teams to support the information gathering of new students to ensure successful transition plans are in place.
- The CDSBEO will be participating in the inaugural Lanark, Leeds and Grenville Transition to Kindergarten (T2K) launch. As described in February, CDSBEO and UCDSB in collaboration with KidsInclusive and other LLG Community Partners are piloting a joint initiative to coordinate a system to develop personalized kindergarten transition plans for children with special needs in Lanark, Leeds and Grenville counties.

Here is a glimpse of what the process will look like:

- T2K Meeting Request Forms will be sent to schools in the spring notifying school principals of a future kindergarten registrant with Special Education needs from LLG community partners.
- Schools are asked to keep these forms with the new registration packages to support the initial transition meeting including the family, school team, consultant, and community partner.
- The inaugural Lanark, Leeds, and Grenville T2K program launches March 30, 2023 with a virtual event hosted by CDSBEO, UCDSB, KidsInclusive and other local Community Partners. This event is presented to parents and guardians of preschool children currently supported by a community partner, preparing to start kindergarten in the fall in either school board. Families will be provided the link to the LLG T2K event through their supporting community agency.
- The Special Education department has been busy reviewing and modifying the Special Education annual report. We will be reviewing a few chapters of the report with the SEAC committee at each of our next 3 meetings.

9. REPORT TO THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION ON THE PROVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES – SECTIONS REVIEWED:

- Section 4 – Identification, Placement and Review
- Section 6 – Special Education Placements Provided by the Board

10. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- Letter from Near North DSB – Special Incidence Portion Claim Concern

11. NEW BUSINESS - DISCUSSION POINTS

- Angie McNamee in consultation with Superintendent Gerber, will draft a recommendation to the Board on behalf of SEAC, sharing concerns regarding Special Incidence Portion Claim.

12. MOTION TO EXCUSE REGRETS:

Anna Lafrance, Easter Seals
Nicole Taylor, Autism Ontario
Sue Wilson, Alternate, Trustee
Judith Peak, Alternate, Rural FASD Support Network

Moved by: Natalie Cameron CARRIED

13. NEXT SEAC MEETING AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT PRESENTER:

- Tuesday, April 25, 2023 - Land Acknowledgment presenter: Tom Jordan
- Tuesday, May 30, 2023 – **NEW DATE**

Topics for Presentations for 2022-2023 school year:

Presentations	Date
Land Acknowledgement Informative Presentation	<i>Wednesday, Sept 28, 2022</i>
Supporting Exceptional Learners Through Technology	<i>Wednesday, Oct 26, 2022</i>
The Right to Read – what it means for CDSBEO (Part 1)	<i>Wednesday, Dec 14, 2022</i>
The Right to Read – Board-wide Structured Literacy Approach (Part 2)	<i>Wednesday, Jan 25, 2023</i>
Child First Initiative, a Federally Funded Program for Inuit Children and Youth	<i>Wednesday, Feb 22, 2023</i>
Sonderly Training: ABA Strategies and Autism Training	<i>Wednesday, Mar 29, 2023</i>
Transition to Kindergarten –T2K	<i>Tuesday, Apr 25, 2023</i>
Special Education Funding and Expenditures 2022-2023	<i>Tuesday, May 30, 2023</i>
Report to the Ministry of Education – Final Review	<i>Monday, June 5, 2023</i>
Transitional Planning, Grade 12 to Community	<i>date to be determined</i>

14. GOOD NEWS SHARING

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

15. CLOSING PRAYER

Principal McNamee led the group in the CDSBEO Board Prayer.

16. MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING

Moved by: Tom Jordan CARRIED

CDSBEO SEAC Quorum Tracking

	September 28, 2022	October 26, 2022	December 14, Meeting #1	December 14, Meeting #2	January 25, 2023	February 22, 2023	March 29, 2023	April 25, 2023	May 30, 2023	June 5, 2023
<i>Chair,</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
<i>Vice Chair, Children's Aid Society of the United Counties SD&G</i>	X	X	P	P	P	P	P			
<i>CDSBEO Trustee</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
<i>Family and Children's Services of LLG</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
<i>Rural FASD Support Network</i>	X	X	P	P	P	P	P			
<i>Child and Youth Mental Health Services - CCH</i>	X	P	P	P	P	X	P			
<i>Autism Ontario</i>	P	P	P	P	X	P	X			
<i>Past Vice Chair, Lanark County Support Services, retired</i>	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

<i>Member at Large, retired</i>	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Easter Seals (as of January 25)</i>	-	-	-	-	P	P	x			
Total	6	6	7	7	7	7	6			