
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023

VIRTUAL, MICROSOFT TEAMS – 6:05 PM TO 7:07PM

SEAC Members:

Donna Nielsen (Chair)

Trustee

Karen McAllister

Trustee

Tom Jordan

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

Cathy Bridson

Rural FASD Support Network

Nicole Taylor

Autism Ontario

Sue Wilson

Trustee

Board Resource Staff:

Heather Gerber

Superintendent of School Effectiveness

Angela McNamee

Principal of Special Education

Kariane Schinzel

*Administrative Assistant to
Superintendent Gerber*

Guests:

Jenn Brown

CDSBEO, Special Education Consultant

Leah Taylor

CDSBEO, Special Education Consultant

Approved regrets with notification:

Natalie Cameron (Vice Chair)

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

Natasha Scott

*Child and Youth Mental Health Services
Cornwall Community Hospital*

Anna Lafrance

Easter Seals

1. Welcome, Introductions and Roll Call

2. Land Acknowledgment

Principal Angela McNamee 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 March 29, 2023, meeting

SEAC minutes were electronically approved on April 5, 2023.

Motion:

To receive minutes as presented.

Moved by: Cathy Bridson CARRIED

6. Presentation:

Transition to Kindergarten – T2K

Presenter: Jenn Brown CDSBEO, Special Education Consultant

- Partnership between CDSBEO and UCDSB in conjunction with KidsInclusive, Connectwell Community Health, and Language Express. Along with Infant & Childhood Development Program, Maltby, Developmental Services Leeds Grenville Infant and Child Development, Brockville General Hospital
- Purpose of T2K:
 - Build collaborative partnerships between families, preschool community agencies and school boards for the T2K process for children with special needs in the Lanark, Leeds and Grenville region
 - Develop well informed, personalized, and coordinated transitions to kindergarten
 - Reduce parent fears and anxiety
- T2K website for more information
<https://sway.office.com/MGTwBFBovrUKPxi1?ref=email&loc=play>

7. Association Updates:

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

Report update: n/a

Rural FASD Support Network – Cathy Bridson

Report update:

- Early April, our Board of Directors completed Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (DEI) Training with Chéla Breckon, a leadership strategist of rural areas. As a grassroots organization, we believe it is important that our core members develop a DEI lens for our policies, programs, partnerships, and our identity. Through this training, members of our board were taught how to use DEI Concepts through an inclusive lens on invisible disabilities. This will act as a foundational step to build strategic plans, to build capacity to grow and to advocate for our caregivers and those impacted with FASD.
- In addition, Rural FASD has recently reached out to all of their members to check in and update contact information so that we can further assist them. By updating our data, we are able to reach out to our members and offer our support and services more thoroughly.
- In hopes to reconnect with our members as we move out of post pandemic silos, we have offered all of our members to fill out a short survey on community building activities. This survey's purpose is to incorporate our members in the planning process in building and strengthening our relationships within our community.
- In the last month, our Master of Social Work (MSW) student, Claudia Reed has been conducting interviews within our community. Claudia is publishing a small environmental scan report on the current status of health care and accessibility for people with FASD. Currently, she is looking to interview representatives of health care providers and individuals with FASD in rural areas. Please feel free to disseminate this information to individuals who may be of help in contributing to this study. If you are interested in being part of this study, please contact Claudia at student@ruralfasd.ca
- Rural FASD has been maintaining a steady income of new members completing intakes with Judith Peak (Program Coordinator). Through word of mouth, the situation table, educational and health committees, referrals have been coming in consistently.
- Judith has been providing system navigation to a number of clients, providing both home visits and office times for members. Judith continues to co-facilitate Mental Health First Aid Training and is working towards facilitating these trainings independently in the months to come.
- Samantha continues to stay up to date with new strategies and tools she can use for marketing purposes. This month she will take part in 2 hands-on workshops to learn the fundamentals of creating a social media marketing plan to grow the organization and to

learn how video storytelling can create compelling content that resonates with our target audience.

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

Report update:

- Autism Ontario is looking for volunteers to represent Autism Ontario on Special Education Advisory Committees (SEACs) in regions across Ontario. Interested volunteers can apply at <https://www.autismontario.com/volunteer> (Select SEAC under Area of Interest)
- For more information on events in your area, please visit <https://www.autismontario.com/events>

8. Department Update – Principal of Special Education, Angela McNamee

- The spring is a busy time a year ensuring schools and students are on track and well supported until the end of June, while planning for next year – reviewing needs, supporting student transitions, and analyzing staffing for September.
- Special Education Consultants along with consultants from Curriculum and Religion have begun supporting Community Learning Network sessions with school teams to help support the revision of schools' equity and inclusion improvement plans. These sessions include wonderful discussions to better the programming, accommodation and delivery of curriculum and extra curricular activities and events within schools to improve student achievement, success, engagement, and inclusion.
- Next week, sixty-six CDSBEO students will be participating in the weeklong mini enrichment course program at Carleton University and University of Ottawa. This opportunity provides students with a glimpse of different post secondary study pathways.
- The Special Education department continues to review and revise sections of the Special Education annual report before presenting them to you each month.

9. Report to the Ministry of Education on the Provision of Special Education Programs and Services – Sections Reviewed:

- Section 9 – Staff Development
- Section 11 – Accessibility of School Buildings
- Section 12 - Transportation

10. Correspondence Received

- PAAC on SEAC – Tip Sheet Special Education Funding 2023

11. New Business - Discussion Points

- Angie McNamee in consultation with Superintendent Gerber reviewed points to include in the draft letter (Special Incidence Portion Claim Concern).

12. Motion to Excuse Regrets:

Natalie Cameron, Children’s Aid Society of the United Counties of SDG
Natasha Scott, Child and Youth Mental Health Services, CCH
Anna Lafrance, Easter Seals

Moved by: Karen McAllister CARRIED

13. Next SEAC Meeting

Tentative date, Tuesday, May 30, 2023

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>Tentative - May 30, 2023</i>
Report to the Ministry of Education – Final Review	<i>Tentative - 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	P		
<i>Vice Chair, Children's Aid Society of the United Counties SD&G</i>	X	X	P	P	P	P	P	X		
<i>CDSBEO Trustee</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
<i>Family and Children's Services of LLG</i>	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
<i>Rural FASD Support Network</i>	X	X	P	P	P	P	P	P		
<i>Child and Youth Mental Health Services - CCH</i>	X	P	P	P	P	X	P	X		
<i>Autism Ontario</i>	P	P	P	P	X	P	X	P		
<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	X		
Total	6	6	7	7	7	7	6	5		