
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2023

VIRTUAL, MICROSOFT TEAMS – 6:02 PM TO 7:43 PM

SEAC Members:

Donna Nielsen (Chair)

Trustee

Natalie Cameron (Vice Chair)

Children's Aid Society

Karen McAllister

Trustee

Tom Jordan

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

Nicole Taylor

Autism Ontario

Sue Wilson

Trustee

Approved regrets with notification:

Natasha Scott

*Child and Youth Mental Health Services
Cornwall Community Hospital*

Anna Lafrance

Easter Seals

Without notification:

Cathy Bridson

Rural FASD Support Network

Board Resource Staff:

Heather Gerber

Superintendent of School Effectiveness

Angela McNamee

Principal of Special Education

Kariane Schinzel

*Administrative Assistant to
Superintendent Gerber*

Guests:

Ashley Hutchinson

CDSBEO, Superintendent of Business

Traci Bloomfield

CDSBEO, Manager of Finance

Rhonda Peterson

CUPE

Stacey Weagant

Parent, St. Thomas Aquinas

Teegan Dawson

CDSBEO, Educational Assistant

Natalie Hollands

CDSBEO, Educational Assistant

- 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: Natalie Cameron CARRIED

5. Receiving Minutes from April 25th, 2023, meeting

SEAC minutes were electronically approved on May 5th, 2023.

Motion:

To receive minutes as presented.

Moved by: Tom Jordan CARRIED

6. Presentation:

CDSBEO Special Education Funding and Expenditures 2022-2023

Presenters: Ashley Hutchinson, CDSBEO, Superintendent of Business
Traci Bloomfield, CDSBEO, Manager of Finance

- The presentation outlines the breakdown of the Special Education funding and expenditures through grants, staffing, professional development, and support services.

7. Association Updates:

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

Report update:

- The agency recognized and responded to the 2023 Mental Health Week with a number of initiatives:
 - The theme of Mental Health Week, May 1-7th, 2023 was "My Story." Mental health is the state of our psychological and emotional well-being. It encompasses our emotions, feelings of connection, thoughts, and the ability to manage life's highs and lows. Throughout our lives, we will all experience periods of positive and negative mental health.
<https://opentext.fcslg.ca/otcs/cs.exe/app/nodes/4433158>
- Teacher Appreciation week was also recognized as were the critical relationships that we have with our educational partners.
- May 13th – National Child and Youth in Care Day.
 - Children and Youth in Care Day, proclaimed into law with the Children and Youth in Care Day Act, 2014, is an opportunity to acknowledge the valuable contributions that current and former youth in care make to the

province, as well as the strength and resilience shown by these children and youth in the face of adversity. Please join us on May 13th to celebrate this very important day. See Lisa's poster linked below for details.

<https://opentext.fcslg.ca/otcs/cs.exe/app/nodes/4434269>

<https://www.oacas.org/publications-and-campaigns/childrenandyouthincare-2/>

<https://youtu.be/C4fmGJcUdfc>

Rural FASD Support Network – Cathy Bridson

Report update:

- Upcoming Meetings and Conferences:
 - June 7th & 8th - Nishnawbe Aski Nation's (NAN) Regional Network Conference
 - June 17th – Caregiver and Families Art in the Park Event
- Our Master of Social Work (MSW) placement student, Claudia Reed has completed her research project on Accessibility of Healthcare for Individuals with FASD in Rural Eastern Ontario. For the purpose of this study, Claudia conducted 15 interviews and explored how individuals with FASD experience healthcare access through the lenses of the first (3) standards: Information and Communications, Transportation and Design of Public Spaces. Claudia is currently in the midst of editing the final report which will be available this Summer. However, Claudia took some time to share with our members some of the implications and recommendations that came from the study. To access this presentation please visit Rural FASD Support Network on Youtube or click the link below.
[Health Care Accessibility for People with FASD in Eastern Ontario - YouTube](#)
- Last month, we spoke on how the Rural FASD was working on reconnecting our members as we move out of post pandemic silos. We encouraged our members to fill out a survey based on community building activities. Through taking in account the answers from those who participated in the survey, we have organized an Art in the Park event for this June 17th. This event is a private event which requires caregivers, individuals and/or youths living with FASD to RSVP to info@ruralfasd.ca if they are interested in participating in this event.
- Rural FASD welcomes two new hires Charlotte Brown, Digital Marketing Assistant and Sophia Hall, Community Engagement Assistant. Thank you to MPP Scott Reid who generously donated \$25,000 to Rural FASD back in December, we were able to hire these two students through Canada Summer Jobs. Charlotte and Sophia will be working with us until the end of August and assist us in our very first fundraising event, the 30th Annual Perth Polar Bear Plunge.

- In January of 2023, Judith and Samantha joined the Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) FASD Action Team. Over the past 5 months, the action team has been collectively working to create a framework and determine the terms of reference for the team. NAN represents 49 First Nations with a total population (on and off-reserve) of approximately 45,000 people. Through this action team, NAN, the 49 communities, and service providers will create strategies to assist and educate FASD in the communities and work towards bringing more awareness and ending the stigma.
- Judith, Samantha and BOD Member Angela will be attending the NAN Regional Network Meeting - Mamow Sakinchintonanoowaan Awashishak Onci – Together Holding Hands for the Children Regional Network this June. An opportunity to meet the members of NAN’s FASD Action Team in person, attend conferences and network.
- Judith has officially completed her Mental Health First Aid Training and will begin facilitating training workshops to the community.
- Samantha continues to maintain the social media accounts and create marketing materials. Samantha will use the opportunity to connect and work with new digital marketing student and community engagement student to build on Rural FASD’s overall media and community coverage.
- Rural FASD Support Network would also like to share that this past month, Shelby DeRose, Canada's First Youth Accessibility Leader with FASD, presented Building FASD Awareness on Positive Mental Health and Well-Being at St. Mary's Catholic High School, Brockville. Using the funds from the School Health Grant for Youth Programs, Shelby in collaboration with a multi-disciplinary team created a wrap-around workshop on identifying mental health challenges, interpreting non-verbal communications, increasing mental wellness and utilizing community resources. A recording of this workshop will be available shortly.

Autism Ontario – Nicole Taylor

Report update: *n/a*

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

Report update: *n/a*

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

- Some professional staff are busy wrapping up assessments, writing reports and meeting with families and school staff. While other staff, are supporting in schools to ensure students have a successful June in their classrooms and schools.
- School and Special Education department staff continue to be immersed in transition planning for our students with special education needs, ensuring the environment and accommodations are in place for them in September.
- The team continues to review student and school needs to ensure the support at the school level. Coming up later next week is the EA draft and our department is collaborating with HR preparing for this day.
- The summer transition program for our students in MEP classes and those with complex needs will be offered at the end of August in schools that are able to remain open during this time. We are in the process of getting preliminary information from schools in order to move forward with next steps.

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

- Section 2 – Programs & Services Model/Special Education Funding
- Section 8 – Special Education Staff
- Section 10 – Equipment
- Section 15 – Special Education Advisory Committee
Collaboration to include 2023/2024 Goals/Priorities and future SEAC presentations.
- Update on data provided from previously reviewed sections

10. New Business

- Notification of Resignation – Amanda Petch, Alternate, Autism Ontario
Motion to Accept: Tom Jordan CARRIED
- MACSE collaboration - SEAC provided updates to include and share with MACSE
- Draft SIP Funding letter will not be sent to Ministry due to new information on SIP funding provided by the Ministry of Education
Motion by: Tom Jordan CARRIED

11. Correspondence Received

- Letter from Durham Catholic School Board, consideration to extend the time to students with differing abilities to remain in Secondary School beyond the age of 21.

12. Motion to Excuse Regrets:

Natasha Scott, Child and Youth Mental Health Services, CCH
Anna Lafrance, Easter Seals

Moved by: Nicole Taylor

CARRIED

Absent without notification: Cathy Bridson, Rural FASD

**13. Next SEAC Meeting
Monday, June 5, 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>Tuesday, May 30, 2023</i>
Report to the Ministry of Education – Final Review	<i>Monday, June 5, 2023</i>
tbd	<i>Wednesday, Aug 30, 2023</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	P	
<i>Vice Chair, Children's Aid Society of the United Counties SD&G</i>	X	X	P	P	P	P	P	X	P	
<i>CDSBEO Trustee</i>	P	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	P	
<i>Rural FASD Support Network</i>	X	X	P	P	P	P	P	P	X	
<i>Child and Youth Mental Health Services - CCH</i>	X	P	P	P	P	X	P	X	X	
<i>Autism Ontario</i>	P	P	P	P	X	P	X	P	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	X	
Total	6	6	7	7	7	7	6	5	5	