
Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 29, 2023 (Meeting 2)
Virtual, Microsoft Teams – 6:31pm – 7:11pm

SEAC Members & Quorum Tracking

SEAC Members	November 29, 2023
Donna Nielsen (Chair) <i>CDSBEO Trustee</i>	<i>Present</i>
Natalie Cameron (Vice-Chair) <i>Children's Aid Society of the United Counties of SD&G</i>	<i>Present</i>
Karen McCallister <i>CDSBEO Trustee</i>	<i>Present</i>
Tom Jordan <i>Family and Children's Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville</i>	<i>Present</i>
Cathy Bridson <i>Rural FASD Support Network</i>	x
Susie Trotter <i>Child and Youth Mental Health Services, Cornwall Community Hospital</i>	x
SEAC Member Alternates	
Cathie Knapp-Fisher <i>Family and Children's Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville</i>	x
Judith Peak <i>Rural FASD Support Network</i>	<i>Present</i>
Kaitlyn Bissonette <i>Children's Aid Society of the United Counties of SD&G</i>	x
Sue Wilson <i>CDSBEO Trustee, Alternate</i>	x
Board Resource Staff	
Heather Gerber <i>Superintendent of School Effectiveness</i>	<i>Present</i>
Angela McNamee <i>Principal of Special Education</i>	<i>Present</i>
Sarah Price <i>Administrative Assistant to Superintendent Gerber</i>	<i>Present</i>
SEAC Quorum	5/6 – Quorum Achieved

1. Approval of Agenda

Chair Donna Nielsen motioned to approve the agenda as presented.

Moved by: Karen McAllister *Carried*

2. Association Updates

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

In early November, we attended a mini conference in Brockville on Inclusive Education and were pleased to see the CDSBEO there as well. It was an informative day and FCSSLG were appreciative of the opportunity to attend.

On Tuesday, December 5th, 2023, FCSSLG is hosting a Skilled Trades Day. This will provide children with the opportunity to explore different opportunities and learn more about the options available to them within the trades.

b. **Rural FASD Support Network – Judith Peak**

Our next caregiver support meeting is taking place on December 16th, 2023. The Rural FASD's Executive Director and Board of Directors team have revised and updated the Vision, Mission, and Values.

Vision: A world where individuals, caregivers and families impacted by FASD have a strong voice, a sense of belonging and are fully empowered to live their best lives.

Mission: Equipping caregivers and people living with FASD by fostering a sense of belonging and peer support, through knowledge development, system navigation, and access to resources build on a foundation of lived experience and expertise.

Our Values: Respect for the individual and their community, compassion with open hearts and minds, social responsibility focused on inclusivity and integrity, stewardship, through trust, innovation and understanding, and a sense of belonging for all.

This November, Rural FASD successfully attended this year's Can FASD Conference in Saskatoon. It was a great success connecting with people across the world. In addition to networking, we participated in many lectures and discussions including but not limited to: supporting students with FASD in the classroom, stigma & FASD, and suicidality in individuals and youth with FASD.

This winter we will be participating in the Brockville, Smiths Falls, Perth and Almonte Christmas parades. Our float will represent both Rural FASD as well as the Perth Polar Bear Plunge as we are the 2024 recipients.

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

SD&G met with other counties to work towards updating the JIPSA (Joint Protocol for Student Achievement) protocol under the direction of the Ministry. The Ministry has a new framework and we are working together to update this information to present

to our community partners in education that will guide all involved in supporting children within the agency or who are receiving support through the agency.

SD&G has started working with youth that are incarcerated to support them in their education journey while they are unable to attend school in person.

SD&G is a member of the OECT Committee which has received a grant from the Ministry to support children in care through education. SD&G plans to approach representatives from all boards (Experiential Learning and OYAP consultants) to come and join our table to brainstorm what we can offer youth in our care and youth who attend the schools in our surrounding area.

d. Child and Youth Mental Health Services, Cornwall Community Hospital – Susie Trotter

N/A

3. Department Update – Angie McNamee, Principal of Special Education

Behavior Management System training was provided to approximately 170 Educational Assistants, Student Support Workers, Early Childhood Educators and Itinerant Able Workers by our own BMS trainers on the October Professional Development Day and in make-up sessions in November. The training consisted of a theory session, written test, and a physical skill assessment. Our CDSBEO BMS trainers are also providing BMS training to school teams through an in-service model.

The Special Education consultants are facilitating in person Multiple Exceptionalities Program classroom workshops with our Special Education program classroom teachers on three separate dates. The first in person session took place November 23rd and the next two will take place in January. These in-person training sessions include presentations from psychology, S-LP, BCBA and consultants. According to the feedback, everyone seemed to have left with a strategy, activity or resource that could be utilized in their classroom.

The Enrichment Mini Courses Program (EMCP) will be taking place again in May of next year. This is an opportunity for 75 Grade 8-11 students to have the opportunity to participate in a week-long enrichment program either at the University of Ottawa or Carleton University. The CDSBEO will be paying the student registration fees. The department is starting to make plans with schools to begin preparing students and their families in January.

The safe schools team and administrators are looking forward to joining the team from the North American Center from Threat Assessment and Trauma Response this Thursday and Friday, November 30th and December 1st, to review risk assessment and appropriate responses with students, their families and the community.

Educating and inspiring...heart, mind, body, and soul!

Early this month, Superintendent Gerber attended the CEC Annual Special Education Conference in Toronto. The keynote speaker was a former student, now educator, who spoke of the wonderful things they can achieve thanks to how much technology has grown in allowing to make education accessible to all. SEAC plays a big role in this and our continued support and advocacy for our most vulnerable students is greatly appreciated.

The Special Education Department would like to wish our SEAC members an advent journey full of hope, love, joy, and peace.

4. New Business

a. Update on the SEAC Nomination for Career Services, Brockville

- i. In September 2023, a letter of nomination was received from Career Services Brockville. After further review, our SEAC has filled our members at large positions. Therefore, at this time we must decline this nomination. Chair Donna Nielsen motioned to move to decline the Career Service, Brockville nomination at this time.

Moved by: Natalie Cameron *Carried*

b. Easter Seals Update

- i. Due to three consecutive absences, Easter Seals was notified that their seat on SEAC would be vacant effective November 16, 2023. Easter Seals has sent a letter to consider their re-nomination of Anna Lafrance as the Easter Seals SEAC Representative. If we are to approve this nomination, it will be brought forward to the Board of Trustees at the next board meeting on December 19, 2023. Karen McAllister motioned to accept the nomination and present this recommendation to the Board of Trustees.

Moved by: Natalie Cameron *Carried*

5. Correspondence Received

N/A

6. Motion to Excuse Regrets Received

Chair Donna Nielsen motioned to move the absences of Susie Trotter and Cathy Bridson.

Moved by: Tom Jordan *Carried*

7. Next SEAC Meeting – Wednesday, January 24th, 2024

8. Good News Sharing

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

9. Closing Prayer

Educating and inspiring...heart, mind, body, and soul!

Principal Angie McNamee led the group in closing prayer.

10. Adjournment

Chair Donna Nielsen motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Moved by: Karen McAllister *Carried*

Topics for Presentations for 2023-2024 school year:

TOPIC	DATE
Summer Learning Program	Wednesday, August 30th, 2023
Transition Planning, Grade 12 to Community	Wednesday, September 27th, 2023
PPM 124 – Community Involvement Hours in Secondary Schools	Wednesday, October 25th, 2023
Structured Literacy – Through the Lens of Reading Intervention Teachers	Wednesday, November 29th, 2023
Cornwall Police Force, Community Liaison Officer	Wednesday, January 24th, 2024
Mindful Educator Practice	Wednesday, February 28th, 2024
Living with FASD, Student Presentation	<i>To be determined</i>
Psychology of Mattering	<i>To be determined</i>
Health Unit	<i>To be determined</i>
Trauma Informed – Supporting Students through a Special Education Lens	<i>To be determined</i>
Kids in Care	<i>To be determined</i>