
Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes

Wednesday, February 28th, 2024,
Virtual, Microsoft Teams – 6:04 – 7:12pm

SEAC Members & Quorum Tracking

SEAC Members	February 28 th , 2024
Donna Nielsen (Chair) <i>CDSBEO Trustee</i>	<i>Present</i>
Cathy Bridson (Vice-Chair) <i>Rural FASD Support Network</i>	<i>Present</i>
Natalie Cameron <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>
Susie Trotter <i>Child and Youth Mental Health Services, Cornwall Community Hospital</i>	<i>Present</i>
Anna Lafrance <i>Easter Seals</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>	x
Kaitlyn Bissonnette <i>Children's Aid Society of the United Counties of SD&G</i>	x
Sue Wilson <i>CDSBEO Trustee, Alternate</i>	<i>Present</i>
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	6/7 – Quorum Achieved

1. Welcome, Introductions and Roll Call

2. Territory Acknowledgement

Principal Angie McNamee acknowledged the Territory.

3. Opening Prayer

Principal Angie McNamee led the group in opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Chair Donna Nielsen added the receipt of the November 2023 MACSE Meeting Highlights under correspondence received.

Moved by: Tom Jordan

Carried

4. Receiving of approved minutes from Wednesday, January 24th, SEAC Meeting.

Minutes from the January 24th, 2024, meeting were electronically approved on February 6, 2024. Chair Donna Nielsen asked for a motion to approve the minutes as distributed.

Moved by: Karen McAllister

Carried

5. School Relationships with Community Police Presentation by Joy Martel, Principal of St. Joseph CSS in Cornwall and Walter MacDonald, Principal of St. Matthew CSS in Cornwall

Walter MacDonald, Principal of St. Matthew CSS and Joy Martel, Principal of St. Joseph CSS were pleased to present and share further information regarding the positive impact of the involvement of the Cornwall Community Police within our CDSBEO Cornwall schools. Together the CDSBEO and The Cornwall Community Police collaborate to engage youth and connect the school and students to the community to ensure that each child feels a sense of safety and belonging in their school environment and community. We are excited to nurture the relationships fostered between school, home, and Community Police by continuing with a proactive and collaborative approach in supporting our community.

6. Association Updates

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

No update at this time.

b. Rural FASD Support Network – Cathy Bridson

- Upcoming Caregiver Support Meeting on March 16th, 2024
- Our Annual General Meeting took place on February 17th in-person with the option to join virtually. All ten positions were filled.
 - Rhonda Gainsford and Cassie More, Members at large.
 - Rob More, Chair
 - Steve Bridson, Treasurer

- Mark DeRose, Secretary
 - Approaching year 3 of our YOF (Youth Opportunities Fund) Funding. The Executive Director, Shelley More, continues to work with Gelder Gingras & Associates, Eva Maxwell on Governance and Strategic Planning.
 - We have hired a new Marketing and Administrative Coordinator, Tanya Speight, who started Feb 13, 2024. As well as looking at potential candidates to hire through the Canada Summer Jobs program. A government program that helps create summer job opportunities for young individuals.
 - We are in the planning phase for a Red Shoes Run Family Day to be held on Saturday, May 11, 2024, in Montague Twp. As part of this we are working with our school boards to have a school presentation on May 10, 2024, at St. Luke Catholic High School in Smiths Falls and Montague Public School in Montague with RJ Formanek, Red Shoes Rock founder, adult living with FASD, as well as Rural FASD Support Network Youth voices.
 - Rural FASD Support Network is now offering Mental Health First Aid Training with a training opportunity scheduled for early March. This training is facilitated by Judith Peak, our Program Coordinator and certified MHFA Facilitator. Our prices vary depending on membership, non-for-profit organizations and corporate companies. Please contact us directly to register for the upcoming training or if you have any questions or concerns.
- c. **Child and Youth Mental Health Services, Cornwall Community Hospital – Susie Trotter**
 - CYMHS will provide more groups for children, youth and their parents in the coming months. This will hopefully alleviate the wait list for services.
 - DBT group has been ongoing and offered virtually.
 - Anxiety group for children and their parents will start at the end of March (in-person).
 - SNAP for children and their caregivers will start at the end of March (in-person).
 - Mindfulness group will be offered later in the Spring.
 - ADHD psycho-educational group for parents will start in the near future.
- d. **Children’s Aid Society of the United Counties SD&G – Natalie Cameron**

No update at this time.
- e. **Easter Seals – Anna Lafrance**

N/A

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

- The Special Education Department team continue with their training sessions and PD for education workers.
- CDSBEO schools are beginning to have their open houses and are getting the registration process started. Schools have been reminded of the significance of transition planning and will continue to collaborate with Special Education staff to support student transitions.
- We have begun the preparations and planning for next year. School Special Education teams are being asked to complete the High Needs Support Schedule for their complex care students. This schedule helps support resource planning for the next school year.
- The Special Education department is taking part in a new initiative supporting the CDSBEO blog by providing monthly articles. The first article was showcased on February 20th and focused on how families can utilize the accommodations in the IEP to support students in the home. Each month moving forward, a new Special Education focused blog post will be announced via social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, X) with a link to the blog article.

8. Report to the Ministry of Education on the Provision of Special Education Programs and Services – Section Review

- Section 1: Introduction
- Section 3: Early Identification Procedures and Intervention Strategies
- Section 5: Educational and Other Assessments
- Section 7: Provincial and Demonstration Schools
- Section 13: Coordination of Services with Other Ministries or Agencies
- Section 14: Specialized Health Support Services in School Settings

9. New Business

- Discussion of SIP funding letter – CDSBEO’s SEAC has decided not to proceed with writing a SIP funding letter to Minister Lecce at this time.

10. Correspondance Received

- MACSE Meeting Highlights – November 7, 2023

11. Motion to Excuse Regrets Received

Anna Lafrance, Easter Seals

Moved by: Tom Jordan

Carried

12. Next SEAC Meeting – Wednesday, March 27th, 2024

13. Good News Sharing

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

14. Closing Prayer

Principal Angie McNamee led the group in closing prayer.

15. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Moved by: Cathy Bridson

Carried

Topics for Presentations for 2023-2024 school year:

TOPIC	DATE
Summer Learning Program	Wednesday, August 30 th , 2023
Transition Planning, Grade 12 to Community	Wednesday, September 27 th , 2023
PPM 124 – Community Involvement Hours in Secondary Schools	Wednesday, October 25 th , 2023
Structured Literacy – Through the Lens of Reading Intervention Teachers	Wednesday, November 29 th , 2023
Mindful Educator Practice	Wednesday, January 24 th , 2024
School Relationships with Community Police	Wednesday, February 28 th , 2024
Living with FASD, Student Presentation	Wednesday, March 27 th , 2024
Kids in Care	Wednesday, April 17 th , 2024