

A meeting of the **Special Education Advisory Committee** was held on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Cambridge Room, Education Centre, with the following members in attendance:

- Trustee members: John Hendry, Cindy Watson, Kathleen Woodcock
- Association Members: Tina Blanchette, Elaine Brown, Dawn Clelland, Mary Cunningham, Graham Dunn, Kris Pryke, Angela Sider Katherine Waybrant
- Association Alternates: Marianne Domm, Molly Fortier, Liz Nickason
- Non-Association Members: Colleen Borman, Frank Johnson, Kevin Rempel, Amy Tupling

Board Staff in attendance: Stuart Cross, Marty Deacon, Scott R. Miller, Elaine Ranney, Karin Sonnenberg

Regrets: Kristina Campbell, Sarah Drexler, Janine Oosterveld,

Guests: Brad Marshall

CALL TO ORDER

S. Miller, Assistant (to) Superintendent of Education - Special Education, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Moved by D. Clelland , seconded by M. Cunningham :

That the agenda of the January 14, 2015, Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, be approved.

- Carried -

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Moved by M. Domm, seconded by K. Pryke:

That the minutes of the December 10, 2014, Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, be approved.

- Carried -

OTHER BUSINESS

SEAC Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

S. Miller called for nominations for the role of Special Education Advisory Committee Chair.

D. Clelland nominated K. Pryke for Chair. K. Pryke accepted the nomination.

There were no other nominations for Chair. K. Pryke was acclaimed as SEAC Chair for the term ending December 2015.

S. Miller called for nominations for the role of Special Education Advisory Committee Vice-Chair.

T. Blanchette nominated A. Sider for Vice-Chair. A. Sider accepted the nomination.

There were no other nominations for Vice-Chair. A. Sider was acclaimed as SEAC Vice-Chair for the term ending December 2015.

SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATE

WRDSB Website/Communications - M. Deacon, Executive Officer, provided an update on the board's website. M. Deacon thanked SEAC members for their input and suggestions and presented highlights of some of these changes on the website. The website is a parent engagement tool and has been designed with that in mind. M. Deacon fielded questions and comments from members and suggested that any future comments be directed through K. Sonnenberg.

A brief discussion about last night's WRAPSC meeting took place and M. Deacon commented on how valuable parent involvement and feedback is.

S. Cross, System Administrator, Special Education, showed examples of various forms that will be posted on the board's website, such as the Safety Plan, IPRC information, Release of Information and the External Provider list, which will be included as an attachment with the minutes. S. Cross suggested that if members would like to see other forms on the website, please send an email to K. Sonnenberg.

Learning For All - S. Miller presented a short clip from a Ted Talk video, [The Myth of Average](#) and an Avon Maitland School Board video [Inclusion](#) with a theme of "inclusion". SEAC members discussed the videos briefly in small groups. Discussions around the topic of inclusion will continue as we go forward in the year ahead.

Policy Review Summary - S. Miller provided a handout listing the current board policies under review. A complete list of the policies to be reviewed 2014-15 will be attached with the minutes. Both S. Miller and K. Woodcock, Chairperson of the Board, encouraged SEAC members to provide feedback and input to any policy so that it can be discussed at SEAC and Board meetings. Links to 4 upcoming policies were sent to SEAC members, January 16, 2015, to review and provide any feedback to K. Sonnenberg's attention by January 22, 2015. The policies are Bullying, Student Discipline, Elementary School Size and Configuration and Health Support Services.

Terms of Reference SEAC - A copy of the SEAC terms of reference were forwarded to SEAC members prior to tonight's meeting. S. Miller fielded comments and suggestions from SEAC members. S. Miller will investigate the legislation regarding the policy of missed meetings and report back to members.

S. Miller distributed copies of the SEAC handbook and informed members that it will be available on the board website.

S. Miller provided a survey for Access Waterloo Region. All secondary developmental education students will take home this survey to be completed. S. Miller asked that associations make this survey available to their membership. It is due back on February 17, 2015, prior to

next month's SEAC meeting, so it can be handed back at the time of the meeting on February 11, 2015 or sent to the attention of Karin Sonnenberg. M. Domm informed members that the Access Waterloo Information night has been cancelled this year.

NOTE - M. Domm forwarded information after the meeting regarding an available online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AWR2015>. This information was forwarded to SEAC members on January 16, 2015.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next SEAC meeting date is Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 7:00 p.m., in the Cambridge Room, Education Centre.

ADJOURNMENT

3. Moved by D. Clelland , seconded by A. Sider :

That the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

- Carried -

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.