

June 15, 2016
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the **Special Education Advisory Committee** was held on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Cambridge Room, Education Centre, with the following members in attendance:

- Trustee members:
- Association Members: Tina Blanchette, Jennifer Checkley, Dawn Clelland, Liz Nickason, Janine Oosterveld, Angela Sider, Kris Pryke, Katherine Waybrant
- Association Alternates: Marianne Domm, Molly Fortier,
- Non-Association Members: Carmen Sutherland, Sherri Popovich, Amy Tupling,

Board Staff in attendance: Cindy Benedetti, Scott R. Miller, Karin Sonnenberg

Regrets: Colleen Borman, Kristina Campbell, Mary Cunningham, John Hendry, Cindy Watson (trustees attending Budget Meeting)

Guests: Faye Zevenbergen, Sara Penny, Shannon Taylor, Amanda Schultz

CALL TO ORDER

SEAC Chair A. Sider called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Moved by K. Pryke, seconded by D. Clelland:

That the agenda of the June 15, 2016, Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, be approved.

- Carried -

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Moved by T. Blanchette, seconded by D. Clelland:

That the minutes of the May 11, 2016, Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, be approved.

- Carried -

Chair A. Sider introduced guests attending tonight. SEAC members introduced themselves.

SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATE

Provincial Schools: S. Miller, Superintendent, Student Achievement & Well-Being, provided an update on provincial schools, particularly those for students with learning disabilities and hearing. The status quo will remain in place for the next year. It will be interesting to see how the new Minister of Education deals with this issue.

SEAC Document: Assess, Reflect and Consolidate Current Draft

We will consolidate the information for the next meeting. We'll determine some dates for the steering committee to meet and complete this document for inclusion in the Spec Ed Plan.

SEAC Looking Ahead: 2016-2017

Stop, Start and Continue. A. Sider passed a sheet around to members to complete.

World Cafe - broke into 3 groups. Categorized as Policy/Other, Programming/Curriculum (services) and Supports (training) - what do we want to prioritize within these categories for next year? Points notated on sheets and members prioritized by placing star stickers beside points they want to deal with in the upcoming year. We will collate this material and provide it soon to guide our work for the next year.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

MOTION TO ACCEPT SHANNON TAYLOR AS THE REPRESENTATIVE FOR EPILEPSY WATERLOO-WELLINGTON

3. Moved by K. Waybrant, seconded by M. Fortier:

That Shannon Taylor will be accepted as the representative for Epilepsy Waterloo-Wellington on the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC).

-Carried -

MOTION TO ACCEPT SARA PENNY AS THE ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR EPILEPSY WATERLOO-WELLINGTON

4. Moved by K. Waybrant, seconded by M. Fortier:

That Sara Penny will be accepted as the alternate representative for Epilepsy Waterloo-Wellington on the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC).

-Carried -

OTHER BUSINESS

K. Waybrant - something that happened to a family -will talk to Scott about this first. Scott will hear it first and he will let the group know what the follow up will be.

ROUND TABLE ASSOCIATION REPORTS

Waterloo Region Family Network

WRFN held a very successful information night last week for A New Chapter – Families Moving Forward. This is a discussion group that will start up in the fall. It is being offered in partnership with Bridges to Belonging (formerly Facile). This group is for parents/caregivers of young adults with special needs who wonder what that future looks like for their children and for themselves. There will be particular emphasis on helping parents to let go. Dates are currently

being set for this eight-week program and will be available soon. If interested please contact Laura MacGregor at: laura.macgregor@wrfn.info

WRFN will also be offering a school-issue-based support group starting in August. Details will be coming soon!

TRUSTEE REPORT

No Trustee Report

CHAIR REPORT

A. Sider, Janine and Kathy attended the strategic planning meeting last month. They will circulate the slide presentation with the minutes (*see attachment Strat Plan PP May 13.pptx*).

It was a very engaging day and exciting to be part of that.

A.Sider provided a brief summary of some of the discussions took place.

S. Miller provided an update with the Strategic Plan - going to the Board June 20

Liz Nickason's last meeting with SEAC. We will celebrate at Boston Pizza for end of year party.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next SEAC meeting date is **Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the **St. Jacobs Learning Hub (Bldg 1)**, Education Centre.

ADJOURNMENT

5. Moved by T. Blanchette, seconded by K. Pryke:

That the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

- Carried -

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.