



# Special Education Advisory Committee

Minutes - April 11, 2018

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) was held on Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 7:00 pm, in the St. Jacobs Learning Hub, Education Centre, with the following members in attendance:

**Trustees:** John Hendry, Cindy Watson

**Association Members:** Tina Blanchette (Tourette Syndrome Foundation of Canada), Sophia Catania (Autism Ontario Waterloo Region), Jennifer Checkley (Easter Seals), Dawn Clelland (CNIB/VEWS for the visually impaired), Janine Oosterveld (Waterloo Region Down Syndrome Society), Katherine Waybrant (Ontario Federation of Cerebral Palsy)

**Association Alternates:** Amy Dibben (Waterloo Region Down Syndrome Society), Sara Penny (Epilepsy Waterloo-Wellington), Amanda Schultz (Parents For Children's Mental Health - Waterloo Region)

**Non-Association Members:** Carmen Sutherland (Waterloo Region Family Network)

**Board Staff in Attendance:** Cindy Benedetti (System Administrator), Leonilda Gil (Administrative Assistant), Scott Miller (Superintendent, Student Achievement & Well-Being)

**Regrets:** Stuart Cross (Family and Children Services of Waterloo Region), Mary Cunningham (FASD ONE Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder/Ontario Network of Expertise), Deanna Driedger Seeger (Waterloo Region Family Network), Graham Dunn (VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children), Kathy Moreland (FASD/ONE Fetal Alcohol

Spectrum Disorder/Ontario Network of Expertise), Sonya Petrella & Corrie-ann Snow (Carizon Family and Community Services), Kris Pryke (Association for Bright Children of Ontario), Angela Sider (Parents For Children's Mental Health - Waterloo Region), Shannon Taylor (Epilepsy Waterloo-Wellington), Faye Zevenbergen (Tourette Syndrome Foundation of Canada)

## **Call to Order**

J. Oosterveld called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

## **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Sara Penny, seconded by Carmen Sutherland:

That the agenda of the April 11, 2018 meeting, Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, be approved.

- Carried -

## **Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Katherine Waybrant, seconded by Sara Penny:

That the minutes of the March 7, 2018 meeting, Special Education Advisory Committee, be approved.

- Carried -

## **Business Arising from the Minutes**

- K. Waybrant would like to speak about bell times which will be deferred to a future meeting and not on the agenda.

## Special Education Update – Scott Miller

- S. Miller shared YouTube video about mobile accessible washrooms at the Invictus games.  
[Link: City TV News Mobile Accessible Washrooms](#)
- Video clip with Blue Jays - #unstoppablekids campaign  
[Link: http://toronto.bluejays.mlb.com/tor/jays-care/unstoppable-kids/](http://toronto.bluejays.mlb.com/tor/jays-care/unstoppable-kids/)
- Director's Town Hall Event - Flyer provided and event being held on April 25th from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Education Centre. S. Miller encouraged everyone to attend.
- On the April 13th PD Day the Educational Assistant Association will be hosting an Event at Bingeman Park and SEAC members are welcome to attend the afternoon session to see guest speaker Chris Ulmer.
- Emergency Response Update: Recently there have been a threats at some of secondary and elementary schools. WRDSB Administrators are trained in emergency response and WRDSB Schools complete a variety of drills throughout the to ensure student safety and preparation in the event emergency responses are necessary.
- Special Education Staffing 2018-2019: The contract extension money from this school year will continue for the 2018-2019 School Year. This staffing resulted in over 50 of our elementary schools receiving additional Special Education Resource Teacher staffing and all secondary schools received additional Special Education Teacher staffing as well. In addition to resource teachers there was also additional paraprofessional staffing (EA and CYW) that was allocated to both elementary and secondary schools.
- PPM 161 Updates
  - September 2018 implementation
  - This PPM focuses on student medical needs and will consolidate procedures for Sabrina's Law, Ryan's Law, Diabetes, Seizures

- IPRC Process - Hand out was provided outlining categories and definitions of exceptionalities.
  - Behavioural
  - Communicational
  - Intellectual
  - Physical
  - Multiple

### **Chair Report - J. Oosterveld**

- SEAC Vision and Guiding Principles
  - Received hand out outlining SEAC feedback which identified the priority areas
  - Next steps will be to add to this topic to the May Agenda to review the 3 main priorities.
  
- Communication Audit - Follow Up
  - K. Waybrant, J. Oosterveld & D. Driedger Seeger attended the meeting. Discussion focused on consistent communication practices. S. Miller to provide the feedback that was collected by the Communication Department.
  - J. Oosterveld attended the recent Parent Involvement Committee Conference. Question was asked if there is interest in SEAC participating in next year's. This item is to be included on the May SEAC Agenda for further discussion J. Oosterveld to provide an email to all members with the information

## Trustee Report

- J. Hendry - Concern raised about accessible transportation. The Board signs 10 year contract for bussing which was just signed this year. Looking at increasing the opportunities for students to be bussed with their peers and how this can happen. Other committees have voiced this concern.

## Round Table Association Reports

### 1. Janine Oosterveld/Amy Dibben (Waterloo Regional Down Syndrome Society)

- Mini Conference and Annual General Meeting to be held on April 21st, 2018 at KidsAbility Pavilion, 500 Hallmark Drive, Waterloo. For registration information go to:

<https://www.wrdss.ca/event/142>

### 2. Amanda Schultz - parents for Children's Mental Health

- Hosting a Family Engagement Day! Join them May 5 at The Family Centre, Kitchener, for an informative day that includes workshops on IEPs, trauma, mental health & addictions, young carers & more! Keynote speaker Perry Mason will also be talking about Bullying Intervention & Restorative Justice.

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/pcmh-family-engagement-day-tickets-44579054151?aff=es2>

### 3. Carmen Sutherland - Waterloo Region Family Network

- Art of Resilience event on Thursday, April 19 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Luther Village, Great Hall. Flyer to be sent with registration information.

- Election Event: Thursday, April 26, 6:30-9 p.m. Holiday Inn (30 Fairway Rd South, Kitchener). Come hear from our local MPPs. See attached flyer.

### 4. Jennifer Checkley - Easter Seals

- Camp first weekend in June - will send flyer

## **Other Business**

None

## **Date of Next Meeting**

The next SEAC meeting date is May 9, 2018, 7:00 p.m. in the St. Jacobs Learning Hub, Education Centre.

## **Adjournment**

Moved by Kathy Waybrant, seconded by Dawn Clelland:

That the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

- Carried -

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.