



Special Education Advisory Committee

Minutes - April 10, 2019

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) was held on Wednesday, April 10, 2019 at 7:00 pm, in the Cambridge Room, Education Centre, with the following members in attendance:

Trustee: Natalie Waddell, Cindy Watson

Association Members: Sophia Catania (Autism Ontario Waterloo Region), Jennifer Checkley (Easter Seals), Mary Cunningham (FASD ONE Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder/Ontario Network of Expertise), Kris Pryke (Association for Bright Children of Ontario), Katherine Waybrant (Ontario Federation of Cerebral Palsy)

Association Alternates: Danielle Brubacher (Tourette Syndrome Foundation of Canada), Kathy Moreland (FASD/ONE Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder/Ontario Network of Expertise), Sara Penny (Epilepsy South Central Ontario)

Non-Association Members: Stuart Cross (Family and Children Services of Waterloo Region), 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)

Guest: Dana Liebermann (Senior Manager WRDSB Research Department), Craig McLeman (WRDSB Vice Principal)

Regrets: Tina Blanchette (Tourette Syndrome Foundation of Canada), Amy Dibben (Waterloo Region Down Syndrome Society), Deanna Driedger Seeger (Waterloo Region

Family Network), Janine Oosterveld (Waterloo Regional Down Syndrome Society), Raas Siddiqui (Carizon Family & Community Services), Angela Sider (Parents For Children's Mental Health - Waterloo Region), Corrie-ann Snow (Carizon Family & Community Services), Shannon Taylor (Epilepsy South Central Ontario).

Call to Order

Jennifer Checkley called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Mary Cunningham, seconded by Carmen Sutherland:

That the agenda of the April 10, 2019 meeting, Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, be approved.

- Carried -

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Mary Cunningham, seconded by Danielle Brubacher:

That the minutes of the March 6, 2019 meeting, Special Education Advisory Committee, be approved.

- Carried -

Business Arising from the Minutes

- Trustee Cindy Watson inquired about the discussion regarding the draft Integrated Transportation Motion. It was agreed to postpone the discussion to the May meeting.

Guest Speaker:

Dana Liebermann (Senior Manager WRDSB Research Department)

- [Safe Caring and Inclusive Schools \(SCIS\) Survey](#) (Data Sharing)
 - Conditions for Learning Review (Relationships, Learning Environment, Pedagogy and Assessment)
 - MDI (Middle Years Development Instrument) is a self-report questionnaire for children starting in Grade 4
 - Five dimensions of the MDI
 - Social & emotional development
 - Physical health & well-being
 - Connectedness
 - Use of after-school time
 - School Experiences
 - The MDI provides a well-being Index
 - Next steps - school level & system level
- [Grade 4-12 Board Level Overview for 2017-2018](#)
 - Introduction to the MDI and about the data
 - Demographics and respondents
 - Asset indices

Special Education Update – Scott Miller

- PPM 161 Prevalent Medical Conditions (Policy and Procedures)
 - P 1006 Supporting Students with Prevalent Medical Conditions (Formerly Anaphylaxis Management)
 - AP 1470 - Anaphylaxis Management Plan
 - AP 1530 - Diabetes Management
 - New AP - Asthma Management
 - New AP - Epilepsy & Seizure Disorder Management Plan

- Guest: Craig McLeman, Vice Principal at Glenview Park S.S. was part of the team that revised/developed the policy and procedures along with a consistent Plan of Care to be used for all WRDSB Students with prevalent medical conditions.
- The revised policy has been presented to the Board and it along with the revised/new procedures will be posted to the WRDSB Website after approval at the April 29th Board Meeting
- L. Gil will provide a copy of the draft documents to SEAC Members.
- 2019- 2020 Budget
 - Matthew Gerard, Coordinating Superintendent, Business Services and Treasurer of the Board to be invited back to the May meeting for an update.
- WRDSB Special Education Plan - deferred to next meeting
- WRDSB Website - SEAC Page has been updated with more current information

Chair Report - J. Checkley

- Discussion regarding questions received from associations:
 - What accommodations can be requested to support standardized testing, particularly EQAO Testing (i.e.. Grade 10 Literacy Test)?
 - Is there a board policy or provincial mandate on accommodation?
 - Families work with the school to provide support to students as required
 - How do students with special needs and their families find out about what is going on at school? Do we have any recommendations for secondary schools on messaging to be inclusive of all students.
 - School announcements differ from school to school
 - Communication options other than social media.
 - Access to information is a concern

Trustee Report

- None

Round Table Association Reports

1. Waterloo Region Family Network - C. Sutherland
 - Evening of Elegance, Friday, April 26, 7-10 pm, Luther Village on the Park in The Great Hall. Link for tickets here:
[https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/waterloo-region-family-network/events/evening- of-elegance-4/](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/waterloo-region-family-network/events/evening-of-elegance-4/)
2. Autism Ontario - [Autism Community Fair & World Autism Awareness Day](#), Creekside Church, 600 Conservation Drive, Waterloo - Saturday, April 13 at 2-4 p.m.
3. Ontario Federation of Cerebral Palsy - K. Waybrant
[Scholarship and Awards applications](#)

OFCP has long been involved in promoting awareness and advocating for understanding and acceptance of persons with disabilities as well as helping individuals reach their potential. OFCP has established several annual awards to acknowledge persons with cerebral palsy, their families, professionals and community members for their significant contributions in improving lives of people with cerebral palsy in Ontario. OFCP would appreciate any support in promoting these awards and scholarships to interested families and students. Applications are due by June 27th, 2019. The following awards and scholarships available:

 - [Eric Waldron Scholarship Award 2019](#)
 - [Mona Winberg Achievement Award 2019](#)
 - [Therapy Scholarship Award 2019](#)
 - [OFCP Volunteer of Distinction Award 2019](#)
 - [OFCP Outstanding Teacher Award 2019](#)

[Nicholas Milojevic Scholarship Award 2019](#)

Other Business

Question around the June SEAC Meeting Date in reference to the timing of the meeting in regards to the 2019-2020 Budget? To be discussed at the May SEAC Meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

The next SEAC meeting date is May 8, 2019, 7:00 p.m. in the Cambridge Room, Education Centre.

Adjournment

Moved by Kathy Waybrant, seconded by Sara Penny:

That the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

- Carried -

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm