



Special Education Advisory Committee

Minutes - February 12, 2020

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) was held on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 7:00 pm, in the Cambridge Room, Education Centre, with the following members in attendance:

Trustee: Natalie Waddell, Cindy Watson

Association Members: Mary Cunningham & Angela Geddes (FASD ONE Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder/Ontario Network of Expertise), Janine Oosterveld (Waterloo Regional Down Syndrome Society), Kris Pryke (Association for Bright Children of Ontario), Angela Sider (Parents For Children's Mental Health - Waterloo Region), Katherine Waybrant (Ontario Federation of Cerebral Palsy)

Association Alternates: Amy Dibben (Waterloo Region Down Syndrome Society), Sharon Hutton (Parents For Children's Mental Health - Waterloo Region), 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's Services of Waterloo Region), Raas Siddiqui (Carizon Family & Community Services), 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: Tina Blanchette (Tourette Syndrome Foundation of Canada), Josh Brenn (Carizon Family & Community Services), Danielle Brubacher (Tourette Syndrome)

Foundation of Canada), Jennifer Checkley (Easter Seals), Jane Martin (Ontario Federation of Cerebral Palsy), Shannon Taylor (Epilepsy South Central Ontario)

Call to Order

Janine Oosterveld called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Sara Penny seconded by Carmen Sutherland:

That the agenda of the February 12, 2020 meeting, Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, be approved.

- Carried -

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Sara Penny, seconded by Janine Oosterveld:

That the minutes of the January 8, 2020 meeting, Special Education Advisory Committee, be approved.

- Carried -

Business Arising from the Minutes

- None

Nominations

- SEAC Chair - Kathy Waybrant nominated Sara Penny for Chair, there were no objections or further nominations, Sara Penney was acclaimed as Chairperson.
- Vice Chair - no nominations or volunteers for Vice Chair.
- Motion to add Angela Geddes as member for FASD/ONE replacing Mary Cunningham moved by Carmen Sutherland, seconded by Kathy Waybrant.
- Motion to add Sharon Hutton as alternate for Parents for Children's Mental Health, moved by Kathy Moreland, seconded by Kris Pryke.

- Acknowledgement and thank you to Mary Cunningham for her years of service on SEAC as representative for FASD.

Special Education Update – Scott Miller

- Special Olympics Update
 - [Special Olympics Video](#)
 - Polar Plunge - Senior Team members attended an event held by WRPS (Waterloo Region Police Services) on February 8 to raise funds for the Special Olympics. It was a great success.
 - Provincial Special Olympics are coming to Waterloo Region from May 21st to May 23rd
 - [Spring Provincial Special Olympics](#)
- SEAC Orientation
 - [All About SEAC](#) - presentation overview:
 - Questions to Consider
 - Mandate
 - Local Association
 - Membership
 - Qualifications
 - Quorum
 - Election Chair & Vice-Chair
 - Meetings
 - Personnel and Facilities
 - Orientation
 - Systemic Advocacy
 - The Primary Roles of a SEAC Representative
 - Role of the Chairperson
 - Meeting Dynamics
 - Legislative Process

- Expectations
- Special Education Plan
- Topics to be Addressed in the Special Education Plan
- Special Education Funding
- Productive Team Characteristics
- Additional information can be found at:
 - [Special Education Plan](#)
 - [PAAC on SEAC](#)
- [WRDSB Special Education Overview](#) - presentation overview:
 - Guiding Ministry Documents
 - Accessing Special Education Supports in the WRDSB
 - WRDSB Tiered Approach to Special Education Supports
 - Tier 1 - Regular Classroom (High Level Classroom Instruction)
 - Tier 2 - Regular Classroom and Withdrawal Support
 - Tier 3 - Congregated Classroom/Programming
 - Dedicated Special Education Staffing to Support the WRDSB Model
 - WRDSB Special Education Supports
- Received a letter from Dr. Cameron Montgomery, Chair, EQAO Board of Directors in response to the letter that was sent out on behalf of SEAC regarding the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). L. Gil to send a copy.
- Review [Special Olympics Website](#) for more information and volunteer opportunities.
- Revisions have been made to the Outdoor Education/Off Campus Education - Board Policy 6004 and will be ratified at the February 24th Board Meeting. A copy of the final version will be provided.

Trustee Report - Natalie Waddell

- [Ad Hoc Bylaw Review Committee](#) - presentation overview:
 - Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2
 - Filling Trustee Vacancies at WRDSB
 - Past Practices Used by WRDSB
 - What Other Boards Have in Bylaws
 - What Other Boards Have Done in Past

Chair Report - J. Oosterveld

- Parent Involvement Committee - Parent Engagement Event
 - Last year SEAC was part of the event which involved guest speakers.
 - They will be hosting another event again this year. It will be held over 3 evenings from the end of March through to the end of April at Sir John A. MacDonald, Forest Heights C.I., and Galt C.I..
 - Do we want to be involved and how do we want to be involved?

Round Table Association Reports

1. Epilepsy - S. Penny, March 26th is Epilepsy Awareness Day. Encouraged to wear purpose to increase Epilepsy Awareness.
2. Waterloo Region Family Network - C. Sutherland, [Evening of Elegance](#) at Luther Village in Waterloo, April 17, 2020.
3. FASD - M. Cunningham, going to Queens Park for the FASD bill.
4. Carizon - R. Siddiqui - Children and Youth Planning Table Event.

When: February 22nd, 10:00am-3:30pm

Where: Region of Waterloo headquarters (150 Frederick St.)/Kitchener Public Library

What: The Children and Youth Planning Table of Waterloo Region (CYPT) is working with UNICEF Canada and others on a project that will help us better understand what life is like for you (young people in our community!). Join us on

February 22nd, and work in teams to complete hands-on activities and games to provide your ideas and give input.

To register: Follow the link: <https://youthink2020.eventbrite.ca/>. Youth can register in teams (approx. 5 members) or in pairs/individuals and be put into teams for a chance to meet new people.

Bonus: Lunch provided, we can help with transportation, volunteer hours, and prizes!

Have questions: Reach out to Monika (mbodemer@regionofwaterloo.ca)

5. Down Syndrome Society - J. Oosterveld, [World Down Syndrome Day Celebration](#) on March 21st at Maxwell's Concerts & Events, 35 University Ave. East, Waterloo.
6. FASD - A. Geddes, [Building Healthy Brains Conference](#) on March 5 & 6 at Marriott Downtown at CF Toronto Eaton Centre.
7. Trustee - N. Waddell, Applications for Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE) due March 6th.
http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/abcs/acse/acse_eng.html

Ministry of Education Memorandum -

https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.osla.on.ca/resource/resmgr/other_advocacy_content/macse_call_for_applications_.pdf

Date of Next Meeting

The next SEAC meeting date is March 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

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