



# Special Education Advisory Committee

Minutes - September 11, 2019

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) was held on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 7:00 pm, in the Cambridge Room, Education Centre, with the following members in attendance:

**Trustee:** Natalie Waddell, Cindy Watson

**Association Members:** Tina Blanchette (Tourette Syndrome Foundation of Canada), Mary Cunningham (FASD ONE Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder/Ontario Network of Expertise), Janine Oosterveld (Waterloo Regional Down Syndrome Society), Angela Sider (Parents For Children's Mental Health - Waterloo Region)

**Association Alternates:** Danielle Brubacher (Tourette Syndrome Foundation of Canada), Amy Dibben (Waterloo Region Down Syndrome Society), Kathy Moreland (FASD/ONE Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder/Ontario Network of Expertise), Sara Penny (Epilepsy South Central Ontario), Katherine Waybrant (Ontario Federation of Cerebral Palsy)

**Non-Association Members:** Stuart Cross (Family and Children's Services of Waterloo Region), Josh Brenn & 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)

**Guests:** Michelle Gaulton, Jane Martin, Heather Richardson

**Regrets:** Jennifer Checkley (Easter Seals), Deanna Driedger Seeger (Waterloo Region Family Network), Kris Pryke (Association for Bright Children of Ontario), 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 Angela Sider, seconded by Mary Cunningham:

That the agenda of the September 11, 2019 meeting, Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, be approved.

- Carried -

## **Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Sara Penny, seconded by Carmen Sutherland:

That the minutes of the June 5, 2019 meeting, Special Education Advisory Committee, be approved.

- Carried -

## **Business Arising from the Minutes**

- None

## **Special Education Update – Scott Miller**

- 2019-2020 School Year
  - System Leaders Meeting held in August
  - Shared All Are Welcome Book by Alexandra Penfold & Suzanne Kaufman and video montage
  - [Conditions for Learning Framework](#)
  - Reflecting on Our Purpose

- Key Themes
- First day photo challenge done by Communications Department
- Ontario Autism Program (OAP)
  - OPA Funding will continue to be based on need (Approximately 23,000 students on a waitlist).
- Facility Update and Opportunity
  - Forest Heights has renovated what was previously a machine shop into 2 large ACE Program Classrooms.
  - Future plan for SEAC to tour various schools to see all the accessibility changes made at schools.
  - Stewart Avenue also received a renovation over the summer to their ACE Classroom with an updated accessible washroom.
  - Grand River C.I. renovation almost completed and will house 4 ACE Classes.
- Procedure Review - AP 1580 Off Campus
  - How are we making trips accessible to all of our students?
  - A WRDSB Committee has been developed to review category I and II trips.
  - Request was made to review the membership of this committee and the possibility of input from parents and/or a SEAC Member.
  - Reviewed in group discussion possible revisions to policy & procedure:
    - [Board Policy 6004 - Outdoor Education/Off Campus Education](#)
    - [Administrative Procedure 1580 - Off-Campus I, II & III](#)
- IPRC Discussion - deferred

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

- Draft Letter - Literacy Test EQAO - deferred to next meeting

## Trustee Report

- Draft Motion Discussion
  - Integrated Transportation for Students with Special Needs to be added as 1.5 on the Board Policy 6004
  - To be reviewed and provide further feedback with suggested changes.

## Round Table Association Reports

1. Waterloo Region Family Network - C. Sutherland
  - September 22, 2019 between 2-5 p.m. [Camp Day](#) at Camp Ki-Wa-Y, 3738 Hessen Strasse, St. Clements, registration [Krista.McCann@wrfn.info](mailto:Krista.McCann@wrfn.info).
2. Ontario Federation of Cerebral Palsy - K. Waybrant
  - [Speak Up Rally](#) at Queen's Park - Stop Discrimination Fund All Disabilities September 20th at 11 a.m. [odcoalition.com](http://odcoalition.com) and the Ontario Disability Coalition.
3. FASD - K. Moreland
  - September 9 - [FASD Awareness Day](#)
4. Parents for Children's Mental Health - A. Sider
  - [Resource List](#) Flyer - Access to Children and Youth Mental Health Resources in Waterloo Region

## **Date of Next Meeting**

The next SEAC meeting date is October 9, 2019, 7:00 p.m. in the Cambridge Room, Education Centre.

## **Adjournment**

Moved by Sara Penny, seconded by Angela Sider:

That the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

- Carried -

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm