



CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, September 26th, 2018

Board Office, Kemptville

6:00 p.m.

Present:

SEAC Members:

Sue Wilson (Chair), Trustee
Dave Conners (Vice Chair), Autism Ontario
Karen McAllister, Trustee
Fran Brauneisen, Association for Community Living
Amanda Banfield, Lanark County Support Services
Heather Brown, Best Buddies
Lorraine Boyer, Member-at-Large
Rob More, LLG FASD Working Group
Shelley More, LLG FASD Working Group (Alternate)

Board Resource Staff:

Donaleen Hawes, Superintendent of School Effectiveness
Heather Gerber, Principal of Special Education
Heather Bovey, Coordinator of Special Education

Approved Regrets with notification:

James Borer, VOICE
Diane Bartlett, Easter Seals Ontario
Christina Nichols, Association for Bright Children of Ontario
Filipa Saraiva, Easter Seals Ontario (Alternate)

Guests:

Heather Ungar, Community Living North Grenville
Gillian Jackson, Coordinator of Coordinated Service Planning and FASD
Nancy Lockwood, Program Manager and FASD Coordinator
Andree-Anne Richer, Children's Aid Education Liason

Meeting Called to Order

Sue Wilson (Chair) called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and welcomed all members and guests.

Opening Prayer

Heather Gerber led the group in a prayer entitled, "*Prayer for All*".

I. Approval of Agenda

Agenda was amended under New Business.

Moved by: Heather Brown

CARRIED

II. Approval of Minutes – June 4th, 2018

SEAC minutes were electronically approved on June 22nd, 2018.

Motion:

To receive minutes as presented.

Moved by: Fran Brauneisen

CARRIED

III. Association Updates

Autism Ontario – Dave Conners

No update at this time.

Association for Community Living – Fran Brauneisen

On September 13-14, 2018 the CLD annual conference was held in Toronto. Sandra MacNamara reported that the Deputy Minister was in attendance. It was made clear to the delegates that funding will be frozen pending a thorough review of the sector. No longer referred to as MCSS but MCCSS. Five ministries have been rolled into one. This could be a challenge for some associations (approximately 30) as they begin negotiations for new contracts. Delegates were also informed that associations must amalgamate in the future to save money and share resources. CLNG has already done this with BACLA and is starting negotiations with Impact Residential Services.

The affordable housing complex is moving forward (10 new houses). Neighbours received notice this week. Re-zoning is the next step and the current mayor and council have expressed support.

Best Buddies – Heather Brown

The focus of Best Buddies in September and October is getting programs up and running in schools. November 5th, 2018 is the Annual Conference to take place at the RV Centre, in Ottawa.

Best Buddies is partnering with York University to visit schools and to create pen pals.

Steven Fenn, a student from St. John CHS, won the Best Buddies scholarship and will be continuing with the chapter as he moves on to Queens University.

Lanark County Support Services – Amanda Banfield

Upcoming Meetings or Conferences:

Home Living Options – for Individuals, Families & Support Network – October 24th, 2018

New Initiatives:

Lanark County Support Services has purchased the Y's Owl Café, in Carleton Place and LCSS will be continuing the successful social enterprise. LCSS will take ownership on November 1st, 2018. Y's Owl gears their social enterprise to people with autism, and LCSS will be transitioning the Y's Owl Café to provide employment supports and meaningful employment opportunities for all persons with disabilities and autism. LCSS is excited with this opportunity to provide support to individuals and their families in a meaningful way.

Other Information:

Heidi Bedor has returned this week and is assuming her role as Executive Director.

Lanark Leeds Grenville FASD Working Group – Rob More

Rob More introduced the following guests at SEAC;

- Gillian Jackson is the Coordinator for Coordinated Service Planning and FASD. Kids Inclusive is the lead agency. Information can be found on the website. FASD aligned with CSP model. Gillian shared that there is one position in each area of LLG (Brockville and Perth locations). Individuals do not need a diagnosis to send in a referral.
- Nancy Lockwood is the Program Manager and FASD Coordinator. CHEO outsourced FASD to Citizen Advocacy. Citizen Advocacy will provide extensive education to schools. Nancy shared the 2nd Annual Eastern Ontario Symposium flyer with the group. This conference will take place November 2-3, 2018, in Ottawa. Nancy also shared cards that showcase the new website that will be launched November 2nd at the symposium. The upcoming website will provide information, resources and will link workers to families.

Upcoming Meetings or Conferences:

October 6th, 2018 – 10:30 a.m. – Kingston PAG

October 20th, 2018 – 10:30 a.m. – Rural FASD Support Network meeting – Calvary Bible Church, 8 Beech St., Smiths Falls

New Initiatives:

- Provincial Bilingual FASD website is still on schedule for late fall launch. Accepting notifications/requests now.
- Lanark and Leeds-Grenville FASD Key Workers through Kids Inclusive is accepting referrals, SDG Key Worker and P-R Worker through Citizen Advocacy has started.
- Rural FASD Caregiver Group launched September 15th, 2018 at 10:30 a.m., at Calvary Bible Church, in Smiths Falls with 45 people in attendance and very positive feedback. Presentations are recorded on Facebook page and blog. Fundraising initiatives continue.
- Lanark County and Edwardsburg-Cardinal declares September 9th, 2018 as FASD Awareness Day.

- November 2nd, 2018 – 2nd Annual FASD Symposium in Ottawa for caregivers, November 3rd for service providers and individuals.

Other Information:

Connections have been made with Open Doors and discussions have begun on advisory capacities.

IV. Department Update

The specialized Lexia Reading computer program will be expanded to all our schools this year. Last year it was piloted in 15 schools, two hundred and fifty licenses have been purchased for the next three years.

On September 27th, 2018 we will be hosting teachers from our Partners Programs as well as elementary Student Support Workers to learn additional strategies to support students in distress or crisis, and to share their experiences and successes with each other.

Consultants are going to schools to meet with Principals, new SERTs and Educational Assistants to provide information and support with the development of IEPs, and to support Enhanced SERT practices.

Social Skills Program training for Teachers, Student Support Workers and Educational Assistants took place on September 26th, 2018 at the Board Office, in Kemptonville. Programs include the *Art of Play*, the *Art of Conversation* and *PEERS*.

Multi-disciplinary Team members have been hired and includes a new Speech Pathologist, ABA Specialist with a BCBA designate and an Occupational Therapist. This team will help to enrich assessments for special needs students with complex needs.

V. Presentation: SELF-DETERMINATION – Heather Ungar – Community Living North Grenville

By providing the Self-Determination program and support to schools, Community Living hopes to meet and build relationships with students and families before they graduate. The middle school curriculum is broken into three modules and explores self-knowledge, self-regulation, effective engagement with others, self-realization and employment skills. Self-Determination helps students and families set and achieve life goals to improve their quality of life.

Heather shared that she was flexible on the possible delivery of the program. There is an assessment completed at the beginning of the program. We can look at other agencies offering it to other schools, but the current focus is North Grenville.

VI. Review of SEAC Recommendations, Presentations for the 2018-2019 School Year

The following suggestions were recommended:

- Open Doors - Service Dog Worker to present on how the therapy session works (March)
- Lexia Reading Program Presentation (November)
- Link between SEAC and Catholic School Council Chairs (changed to February)
- Multi-disciplinary Approach to Assessment (January)
- Self-contained Classrooms and Section Classes-When and Why? (April)

VII. New Business

- A letter was submitted to SEAC from the Rural FASD Support Network appointing Rob More as representative of LLG FASD Working Group, with Shelley More as alternate member beginning December 1st, 2018.

Motion:

To appoint Rob More as representative of LLG FASD Working Group, with Shelley More as alternate member beginning December 1st, 2018.

Moved by: Lorraine Boyer

CARRIED

- An email was received from James Borer, VOICE stating that he will not be returning for this term.
- An email was received from Christina Nichols identifying that she will not be representing the Association for Bright Children of Ontario going forward.

It was determined that we will send letters to all schools to ask parents who may be affiliated with an organization to put their names forward to sit on SEAC. Members also discussed other organizations that may be interested in sitting on SEAC.

VIII. Motion to Excuse Regrets Received

Motion:

Motion to excuse James Borer, VOICE, Diane Bartlett, Easter Seals Ontario, Christina Nichols, Association for Bright Children of Ontario and Filipa Saraiva, Easter Seals Ontario (alternate)

Moved by: Heather Brown

CARRIED

IX. Next SEAC Meeting

The next meeting of the CDSBEO Special Education Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, October 24th, 2018 at the Board Office, in Kemptville, starting at 6:00 p.m.

X. Good News Sharing

Members and guests shared items of good news from across our eight counties.

XI. Closing Prayer

Heather Gerber led the group in the Board prayer.

XII. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Moved by: Rob More

CARRIED

CDSBEO SEAC Quorum Tracking

	Trustee / Chair	Trustee	VOICE *not returning this term	Assoc. for Community Living	Autism Ontario	Best Buddies	FASD	Easter Seals – Ontario	Lanark County Support Services	Member at Large - LB	Total
August (cancelled)											0
September	P	P		P	P	P	P		P	P	8
October											
November											
January											
Feb – Meeting #1											
Feb – Meeting #2											
March											
April											
May											
June											

(5 members are required to be in attendance in order to reach Quorum)