



# CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO



## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Meeting #1

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  
Samantha Vidoni, Special Education Consultant

### **Approved Regrets with notification:**

#### **Guests:**

Andree Anne Richer, Children's Aid Society  
Megan Jarzyna, Parent, St. John Bosco Catholic School, Brockville

### **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 to Focus*".

**I. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Lorraine Boyer

CARRIED

**II. Approval of Minutes – October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

SEAC minutes were electronically approved on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

**Motion:**

To receive minutes as presented.

Moved by: Heather Brown

CARRIED

**III. Association Updates**

**Autism Ontario – Dave Conners**

Last weekend's Christmas party in Cornwall was well attended. The association is trying to increase membership numbers with active recruitment. An Open House is planned for the spring.

**Association for Community Living – Fran Brauneisen**

Emily Branje from *Action4Inclusion*, sent information on their summit update. They are celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A leadership summit will be held in March 2019 with more details to follow. Recent information regarding workshops sponsored for R41 are called "*Community Conversations*". They are being offered to schools and community groups and have been very successful and well received. The information will be forwarded to CDSBEO.

Amina Patel, Community Living Ontario, announced the 6<sup>th</sup> annual contest for elementary school-aged children. This contest promotes awareness about inclusive education. Students and classes are invited to submit videos or individual stories/poems expressing why class is better because students who have intellectual/developmental disabilities are included, and everyone is learning together. The contest ends January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**Best Buddies – Heather Brown**

- Best Buddies is preparing for the Wizard of Oz, in Toronto – no cost to schools.
- Best Buddies is encouraging fun activities heading into the holidays.

**Lanark County Support Services – Amanda Banfield**

- The Y's Owl Café is doing well with two interns now.
- Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 thirty participants, staff and clients are leaving for Disney.
- The association Christmas party was held this month.

### **Lanark Leeds Grenville FASD Working Group – Rob More**

#### Upcoming Meetings or Conferences:

- Kingston PAG – December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018
- Rural FASD Caregiver Group Potluck Lunch – December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – 10:30 a.m., Calvary Bible Church, Smiths Falls

#### New Initiatives:

- Rural FASD Support Network received \$4,500 for November-March for caregiver support, and \$4,500 for November-March for children support.
- Lanark County Support Services presented Housing Options for Adults with Disabilities at the November meeting, with several books provided.
- Several members participated in the Ministry of Education Consultation.
- Still waiting for MCSS release of new FASD website.

#### Other Information:

- CanFASD and the Rural FASD Support Network are entering into a working collaboration to provide training material in the province of Alberta.

## **IV. Department Update**

Consultants continue to support the use of math magazines in schools, literacy initiatives and delivering CPLC's based on individual student needs. Dr. Hawes shared that the EQAO math results for our students with IEPs showed outstanding gains have been made.

CDSBEO is currently doing a project with Grade 7/8 students, looking at mental health through a Harry Potter and Cognitive Behaviour Therapy connection and novel study. This project was initiated with Sunnybrook Hospital and Dr. Hawes.

Sarah Jaynes, teacher at Notre Dame CHS, Carleton Place who started the Exceptional Art program, is supporting students to create amazing artwork. They created cards with charcoal and using Photo Shop. Through this activity they practiced numeracy and literacy skills. Sarah is documenting this success through a video. The cards are available to purchase.

## **V. Presentation: LEXIA Reading Program**

Samantha Vidoni, Special Education Consultant, shared the LEXIA program with SEAC. Through video and pictures, Samantha shared the success students are having learning to read with the LEXIA program and support from Special Education Resource Teachers. LEXIA was piloted last year with fifteen schools and is now accessible to all schools in CDSBEO, and to students who continue to struggle with reading after all other programs have been exhausted.

Students work on the program for twenty minutes a day at school and have access to it at home as well. Data is readily available through the program to track progress and to

supplement with extra lessons taught by a teacher. The program has already shown to have made significant gains for students involved.

The Special Education Department is looking forward to seeing the results for our struggling readers as we move into 2019!

**VI. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

Moved by: Dave Connors

**CARRIED**

**CDSBEO SEAC Quorum Tracking**

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

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