

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2018 October 9
12:26 p.m. to 3:01 p.m.

MEMBERS

M. Barbeau, Voice for Hearing Impaired Children
J. Bennett, Trustee
P. Cook, Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario
M. Cvetkovich, Children's Aid Society of London and Middlesex
C. Dendias, Chippewas of the Thames
S. Dobaczewski, Vanier Children's Services
B. Furac, Community Living London
T. Grant, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Network-ELMO (Chair)
C. Goodall, Trustee
C. Thammavonga, Association for Bright Children (+12:38)
S. Young, Autism Ontario London (+1:09)
J. Simpson, Children's Aid Society of London and Middlesex
J. Nuyens, Thames Valley Council of Home & School (+12:39)

Regrets: B. Harvey, L. Turner-Otte, A. Morse, R. Tisdale,
S. McDougall, J. Schaeffer, S. Davis, J. Gritzan

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

A. Canham, Superintendent of Special Education
A. Leatham, Learning Supervisor
R. Ferrara, Learning Supervisor
J. Bruce, Elementary Principal
T. Birtch, Secondary Principal
M. Chevalier, Elementary Principal
D. Clark, Secondary Principal
J. Capaldi, Communication Specialist
J. McCall, Epilepsy Support Centre
B. Summers, Oneida Nation of the Thames
S. Smith, Corporate Services
S. Lawrie, Learning Support Staff (+1:08)(-2:12)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Grant called the meeting to order at 12:26 p.m. in the London Room at the Education Centre.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved on motion and carried.

3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST – None.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS FROM 2018 September 10

The minutes of the 2018 September 10 meeting were provided for information.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 2018 SEPTEMBER 10

a. Culture for Learning Committee Representation item 8.0

A. Canham reported that T. Grant has been officially added as the Culture for Learning Committee Representative for SEAC. A schedule of meetings has yet to be set.

b. Ontario Human Right Commission Policy on Accessible Education for Students with Disabilities item 16.a

No input was offered from the committee, regarding writing a letter to the Ministry. Chair Grant encouraged SEAC to take action and noted the potential writing of a letter to Ministry will be, revisited in the future.

6. SELF-CONTAINED CLASS PROCESS/LOCATIONS/NUMBERS

A. Canham and A. Leatham provided information on the Self-Contained Class Process/Locations/Numbers, the current number of pilot schools, class sizes, and process involved for Elementary and Secondary schools. A. Leatham also provided for information the Self-Contained Class Process/Locations/Numbers per region. A. Leatham noted that Cleardale P.S. is the primary pilot school directed by the Ministry. A. Leatham and A. Canham provided for information the application process for self-contained classes.

Questions of clarification were addressed by A. Leatham, A. Canham and R. Ferrara. There was a suggestion forms be translated into multiple languages. In response to concerns regarding the classroom locations A. Leatham noted that students are placed in a school close to home whenever

possible, however there is no cap on travel time. A. Leatham also noted, however travel time is a considered factor prior to an offer being made.

7. CTCC PROGRAMMING IN TVDSB

a. Educational Programs in Care and/or Treatment, Custodial and Correctional (CTCC) Facilities

A. Canham presented information on the Educational Programs in Care and /or Treatment, Custodial and Correctional (CTCC) Facilities. A. Canham noted that Care and /or Treatment, Custodial and Correctional Facilities education programs are based on a collaborative model between the school board and the facility. The program is currently run by the Catholic school board.

In response to a question, A. Canham will look into the number of TVDSB students enrolled in this program.

8. MEETING AND SEAC EXIT SURVEYS DRAFT

Chair Grant provided for information the Special Education Advisory Committee Exit Survey. C. Goodall volunteered to assist Chair Grant with preparing the exit survey and a meeting evaluation survey to present at the 2018 November 12 SEAC meeting.

In response to a question, it was noted, feedback regarding meeting times would be included in the survey.

9. TRANSFER OF PAYMENT AGREEMENT FOR ASD PILOT

A. Canham reported TVDSB recently received funding from the Ministry to continue the Autism Spectrum Disorder Pilot. Training has been provided for 20 new educational assistants. A. Canham further noted a survey was completed to gather feedback about the program.

Discussion occurred regarding the data from the survey noting it has been sent to the Ministry and will be used to improve the Pilot Program. In response to a question, A. Leatham confirmed there would be follow up with Ministry regarding the feedback.

10. ROLE OF THE LST DOCUMENTS

a. The Role of the Learning Support Teacher

A. Canham explained the role of the Learning Support Teacher is to support staff, students, program planning and coordination, and communication and collaboration.

11. SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRIORITIES (STANDING ITEM)

a. SEA Automation Update

A. Canham, R. Ferrara, and S. Lawrie outlined the evolution of the SEA automation process, noting the pilot project is being extended for a second year to gather more data. A. Leatham answered questions regarding the consistency of duties performed by Learning Support Teachers.

S. Lawrie provided information and a demonstration on the SEA application process.

Information on the approval process that is completed daily was provided.

R. Ferrara provided information on the training plan for students accessing SEA equipment.

S. Lawrie and R. Ferrara answered questions from the committee about the SEA automation process. In response to a question S. Lawrie noted each device is tailored and applications are selected specifically for each student based on that student's assessment. Additional training for devices is provided upon request.

It was noted that often training isn't the barrier, that trouble shooting and Wi-Fi issues are causing the student to not be able to use their device.

12. PASSAGES TRANSITION FAIR UPDATE

- a. A. Leatham presented information about the Passages event taking place on 2018 November 7 from 4-7 p.m. at the Education Center. A. Leatham requested information from members for presentation at the fair.

The Passages poster has been sent to each member formatted as a JPEG, so members can easily share it online. This was requested during the meeting.

13. SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRIORITIES (STANDING ITEM)

The committee performed a ten minute group activity, the committee members were divided into five teams where they charted priorities "what should SEAC be working on this school year". Chair Grant noted the information will be collated and presented at the 2018 November 12 meeting.

A. Canham shared a brief recap from his one-on-ones and provided information on his plan to use the feedback to move SEAC forwards.

C. Goodall noted there needs to be a clear understanding on the true role of SEAC for all members.

14. SPECIAL NEEDS STRATEGY UPDATE (STANDING ITEM)

Chair Grant noted Children's Mental Health has undergone recent changes by the Ministry, updates will be provided as the information becomes available.

15. SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN (STANDING ITEM)

Chair Grant noted work on the Special Education Plan will take place in the new year.

In response to a question, A. Leatham noted SEAC is striving to ensure priorities align with the Ministry, Board and the Special Education Plan.

16. MODIFIED DAY GUIDELINES (STANDING ITEM)

A. Canham noted there has been clarification within the schools on what needs to be recorded to ensure accurate information for modified days.

Discussion occurred around various reasons why a child might need modified days in kindergarten.

17. CORRESPONDENCE (STANDING ITEM)- None.

18. OTHER BUSINESS-None.

19. FORUM: ASSOCIATION UPDATES

A motion to extend the meeting until 3:10 p.m. was approved and carried.

Round table updates were completed; committee members highlighted some of the events and activities planned by various organizations in October and November. Flyers have already been handed or sent out.

20. 2018-2019 MEETING DATES- London Room

Monday, November 12, 2018 6:30 p.m. (Dundas)
Tuesday, December 11, 2018 12:15 p.m. (TBD)
Tuesday, January 8, 2019 12:15 p.m.
Tuesday, February 12, 2019 12:15 p.m. (Dundas)
Monday, March 4, 2019 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 2, 2019 12:15 p.m. (Dundas)
Monday, May 6, 2019 6:30 p.m.

Monday, May 27, 2019 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, June 11, 2019 12:15 p.m.

21. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Exceptionality Data & Trends (November & May)
- Informal Suspension (ongoing)
- Creating a Survey for Gifted Program (D. Ensing)
- Update on Phonological Awareness Screening Changes (V.Ferandes)
- Gifted Programming in Secondary (September)
- Self-Contained Class Process/Locations/Numbers (October)
- CTCC Programming in TVDSB (October)
- Primary Accelerate Class Video (September)
- Behaviour Analysts Update (November)
- November- LD Team (Update on Empower, Lexia)
- Review of SAL/Alt.Ed. Process (SEAC Priority Discussion) (September)

22. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m. by motion.

TRACY GRANT
CHAIRPERSON

RECOMMENDATIONS: None