



**TRILLIUM LAKELANDS DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Minutes**

Date: Tuesday, April 5, 2016  
Time: 5pm  
Location: Videoconference

Members Present: J. Balfour, S. Binstock, A. Brown, L. Burgess, A. Gordon,  
D. Morrison, J. Read  
Regrets: D. Callan, J. Hermer, R. McHugh  
Staff Present: J. Andreasen, J. Johnston, K. MacIver, S. McKinley

- Roxana Vernescu, FASD ONE Representative has resigned her position with SEAC

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by A. Brown, seconded by L. Burgess  
That the agenda be approved as amended  
Carried.

**2. Approval of Minutes of February 2, 2016**

Moved by A. Brown, seconded by J. Read  
That the minutes from the February 2, 2016 SEAC meeting be approved as presented  
Carried.

**3. Presentation: FASD Supports in TLDSB**

Special Education Consultant Shannon McKinley shared information with SEAC about FASD.

Some of the highlights that were overviewed regarding TLDSB supports for students with FASD:

- Unknown numbers in terms of diagnosis of FASD- potentially under-diagnosed
- Professional Development opportunities that have been offered in TLDSB
  - EA PD Day
  - SERT Training
  - Specific school training
  - Specific school support

- Strategies and tools used to support students
  - Response to Intervention (RTI)
  - Planning Framework
  - FASD Wheel
- Need a caring adult / *go to* adult that every student, including students with FASD, feel safe or supported with
- Goal = foundational understanding system-wide + expertise available for support
- End result- doing what is best for the student regardless of diagnosis

#### **4. Department & System Updates**

Superintendent Katherine MacIver shared the following updates with SEAC:

- Suspension & Expulsion Data
  - First half of 2015-2016 data was shared including data regarding Students with Special Needs
  - Questions/ Considerations:
    - What accommodations occur during the Restorative Practices process?
      - ACTION: Superintendent MacIver to ask Consultant Heather Truscott to provide an update about accommodations made for students with exceptionalities during the RP process
      - ACTION: Superintendent MacIver to discuss the role of RP with Administration
    - Is there data around informal suspensions (parents picking kids up early when there is an incident?)
    - What is the effect of interventions on 'repeat offenders'?
  - Shift from 'zero tolerance' mentality to Restorative Practices mindset
  - University of Waterloo working on research study on Alternatives to Suspension and effectiveness of current practices
- The Young Warriors Program (MMA for Grade 4-6)
  - 14 individuals are being trained
  - 6 schools participating in pilot
  - SMFC, Point in Time, Chimo and CMHA are partnering and training with TLDSB
- SEAC Video Production
  - Communications department is undergoing training
  - Committed funds to purchase software to produce videos in-house
  - SEAC videos will be created once capabilities in place

- OSSLT
  - OSSLT was written on March 31, 2016 despite job action
  - Secondary Principals offered support for preparation
  - Elementary Principals supported supervision of writing
  - Accommodations were available for students
  - Technology was available
  - Students seemed confident

District Principal Jennifer Johnston shared the following with SEAC:

- Special Education Leaders Meeting
  - April 1, 2016
  - Special Education Resource Teachers, System Class Teachers, Administration
  - Focus on leadership in roles
  - Reviewed Shared Solutions document
  - Discussion about RTI development & student-specific interventions
  - Showcased System Level Classes (presented by Program Teachers- PA&LS, RISE, Coaching Class, Bridging Class, Learning Strategies Class)
- FASD Biennial Symposium
  - Trustee Binstock, District Principal Jennifer Johnston, Consultant Shannon McKinley attended along with community partners
  - Great learning opportunity
- ADOBE Connect Session for EAS
  - March 11, 2016
  - Teamwork and solution focused approaches
- Special Education Advisory Team (SEAT)
  - Meeting will occur April 6, 2016
  - Principals, SERTs, CT, Program Teachers, EAs will be represented
  - Purpose to seek out system input from Special Education lens
  - Topics: IEPS, EA Professional Learning, Parent Guide

## **5. Updates & Projects**

- L4A Review: SEAC Book Study- Review Pages 24-32
  - Summary:
    - Teachers as key educators
    - Review: assessments, tiered-approach, goals
    - Documentation of learning and development of strategies based on assessment
    - Green, yellow and red zones responses
    - Assessments do not have to be formal
  - ACTION: For May SEAC read pages 33-50

- Parent Guide Review
  - Review of draft outline
  - Visuals and videos will be added as developed
  - ACTION: SEAC review the Parent Guide draft and email feedback and/or bring notes back to May meeting
  
- Customer Service in TLDSB
  - Discussion in fall re: Customer Service (Be Our Guest) + how are we providing service to parents, students, staff in relation to Special Education (Shared Solutions)
  - Customer service leadership and professional development in TLDSB- shared strategies and ideas in *Be Our Guest* are intended to be a framework for discussion and lens for approach; not prescriptive
  - Goal is to provide quality customer service; enhance public confidence
  - How are we measuring the impact we are having in relation to Customer Service?
    - School Climate Survey (next one Spring 2017)
    - Strategic Directions Inquiry- what should the direction of TLDSB be?
    - Parent Survey Specific to Special Education to be developed
    - Focus on communication and community connections
    - Include parent survey for feedback with IPRC invite (pre-IPRC discussion lens. e.g. how effective was IEP? What made impact?)
  - How are we engaging student voice in relation to 'customer service' (lens of student as customer/ student services)?
  - ACTION: SEAC to participate in development of future parent & student surveys.
  
- Exceptionality Brochures
  - 5 new brochures under development:
    - Deaf & Hard of Hearing
    - Blind or Low Vision
    - Physical Exceptionality
    - Speech Impairment
    - Language Impairment
  - Text draft shared with SEAC
  - Communications department requested content be approved prior to formatting
  - Department staff assisted with brochure creation based on roles (Itinerant Teachers, SLPs, Consultants)
  - ACTION: SEAC to review brochures and bring back suggestions to May meeting

## **6. Association and Community News**

Janice Balfour shared the following on behalf of the Children's Services Council:

- There will be an announcement re: FASD Supports in the Community at end of April

Jamie Read from Autism Ontario shared the following updates:

- Customer service video produced in relation to 'What is Autism'
- World Autism Awareness Day was on April 2, 2016; many schools participated
- Autism Ontario has Post-Secondary Scholarship opportunities that will be shared with TLDSB
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual ASD & Mental Health Conference is occurring in Lindsay on April 28, 2016
- Ontario Autism programming is changing with a focus on Early Intervention; there will be informational webinars occurring for parents and partners outlining the changes later in April

Leslie Burgess from Tourette Canada- Muskoka Chapter shared the following update with SEAC:

- The 8<sup>th</sup> Trek for Tourette occurred on March 20, 2016 in Gravenhurst; approximately \$5000 was raised
- At end of April Tourette Canada is re-training inservice providers to be available for Community Advocacy, increase awareness

Amber Gordon from Community Living Huntsville shared the following on behalf of the Muskoka Family Network

- Saturday April 16, 2016 from 1pm-4pm Shona Casola is presenting "Conversation about Differences, How Language Shapes People's Understanding of Self"

Janice Balfour from the Learning Disabilities Association

- LDAO Peterborough shutdown services in February due to financial issues; as a satellite office the CKL office was also required to temporarily shut down. As of this week the CKL Office is re-opened, will be launching a 'Save Our Chapter' fundraiser.

## **7. Items for Discussion**

LDAO SEAC Circular

- Requested examples of school or board programs for students with Learning Disabilities
- Suggesting highlight TLDSB Learning Strategies Classes and Assistive Technology Training Strategy

**8. Correspondence and Announcements**

- *cc letter to MOE from DCDSB re: Reg. 274*
  - *SEAC agreed to receive the letter for information*

**9. Future Business**

DATE	FORMAT	UPDATES/ TO DO	PRESENTATION
<b>2016</b>			
May 3	Video Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L4A Review</li> <li>• Parent Guide Review</li> </ul>	None
June 7	Annual End of Year Dinner- HCEC		Budget
Future Business		Parent & Student Input surveys	CaPS MMA/ Young Warriors

**10. Next Meeting**

Tuesday, May 3, 2016  
5pm – Videoconference

**11. Adjournment**

Moved by A. Brown  
That the meeting be adjourned  
Carried.