



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

Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2015
Time: 5pm
Location: Teleconference

Members Present: J. Balfour, S. Binstock, A. Brown, S. Burke, L. Burgess, D. Callan,
A. Gordon, D. Morrison, J. Read, R. Vernescu

Regrets: J. Hermer, L. Morin

Staff Present: J. Andreasen, J. Johnston, K. Maclver

1. Introduction of Members

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by D. Morrison, seconded by R. Vernescu
That the agenda be approved as presented
Carried.

2. Approval of Minutes of November 3, 2015

Moved by R. Vernescu, seconded by D. Morrison
That the minutes from the November 3, 2015 SEAC meeting be approved as
presented
Carried.

3. Department & System Updates

Superintendent Katherine Maclver provided the following updates to SEAC regarding board initiatives:

- Labour update:
 - A deal was ratified with CUPE and ETFO which has ended the labour action with those groups
 - Local labour action with OSSTF teaching staff is still occurring but OSSTF actions are not impacting student services/ programs
 - As of today OSSTF support staff have reached a tentative deal with the province. OSSTF support staff include SSACs, Speech and Language Pathologists and Psychoeducational Consultants
- CaPS (Collaborative and Proactive Solutions)
 - There is a steering committee teleconference next week and the initiative will resume in with proficiency trainers and schools in January
- MMA (Mindful Martial Arts)
 - Initiative will re-commence next week with a steering committee meeting

District Principal Jennifer Johnston shared the following updates with SEAC regarding staff and department programs and initiatives:

- The department is starting to plan professional development sessions again. The new to SERT PD will occur in January
- Lots of equipment and assistive technology has been purchased to support Students with Special Needs, with a focus on iPads and assistive technology apps
- TLDSB is working alongside Learning Disabilities Association of Peterborough (LDAP) to bring DJ Cunningham to speak to a student group and a parent/guardian/community group about the use of Assistive Technology for student learning
- The mid-year PAG process (Principal's Advisory Group) for EA Allocation Review will occur on December 2, 2015. A group of Principals along with school consultants come together to determine school EA allocations which will start in February. Schools have shown a lot of team-work this fall to put proactive programming in place for students

4. Updates

Roxana Vernescu from FASD ONE updated SEAC on the following:

- The faculty at Nipissing University have reached a tentative agreement

Janice Balfour updated the committee on the recent community meeting that Children's Services Council hosted in relation to a community FASD strategy:

- Sheila Burn did a presentation and lead a discussion on what the Ministry Strategy will look like
- The meeting was an introductory conversation where Committee members in attendance prioritize needs and analyzed data for the CKL/ Haliburton Area
- ACTION: Janice to share FASD document with SEAC

SNS (Special Needs Strategy)

- Waiting for updates & feedback on proposals from Ministries on the IDRS and CSP submissions for both regions

Information resources to support children and families:

- The first four information pages are to be posted on the TLDSB website this week and will be shared with District School Council
- Information pages are intended to be a starting place for discussion/ learning for parents; not meant to provide full scope of information
- Purpose is to outline supports TLDSB offers
- Discussion regarding exceptionalities versus diagnoses:
 - Intention is to prepare info-pages specific to TLDSB on topics where TLDSB is confident in the school board perspective and can clearly outline what TLDSB supports look like

- Plan for next steps:
 - FASD
 - Waiting for information on provincial strategy
 - SEAC Members requested that we have some information (links to community supports etc.) available to inform parents from educational standpoint included as a resource on the website
 - Behaviour
 - Once the Ministry releases a new exceptionality definition, a review will occur in regard to behavior and the aspect/element of the physical
 - MID (Mild Intellectual Disorder):
 - TLDSB will be reviewing Ministry of Education definitions/guidelines prior to development
 - Next brochures to be developed:
 - Blind/ Low Vision
 - Deaf and Hard of Hearing
 - Language Impairment
 - Speech Impairment
 - Physical
 - Multiple
- ACTION: Jen A to send out Ministry Definitions of Exceptionalities to SEAC
- ACTION: Jen A to add brochures and information sources to the January agenda as a further discussion topic
- ACTION: Roxana to share resources with SEAC re: FASD
- ACTION: Janice to find more information on FASD strategy and supports from Children's Services Council

5. Association and Community News

Janice Balfour from LDAP updated SEAC on the following:

- DJ Cunningham will be coming to CKL to do presentations to parents and students on Assistive Technology in the Classroom on Feb 18, 7pm; an agenda and location will be shared in January

Jamie Read from Autism Ontario shared the following update with SEAC:

- Last month Autism Ontario hosted a Provincial Training with a focus on Special Education; more information will be shared at the next meeting
- On November 30 Autism Ontario hosted a webinar on how to be an effective advocate. The webinar is on Autism Ontario website where anyone can view at no cost

Darlene Callan from Five Counties Children's Centre shared the following information:

- Darlene will be leaving Five Counties CKL Office to take a position as Director of Clinical Services for Five Counties in Peterborough
- Would like further information about SEAC representation for FCCC
- ACTION: Katherine to investigate and communicate with Darlene the process for replacement representative

Steve Burke from Community Living Kawartha Lakes shared the following with SEAC:

- Steve will be moving to a different position within Community Living Kawartha Lakes – Director of HR - starting in January.
- There will be a new Manager of Child and Family Services
- Would like further information about SEAC representation
- ACTION: Katherine to investigate and communicate with Steve the process for replacement representative

6. *Items for Discussion*

Trustee Steve Binstock advised:

- Interested in customer service model
- Would like to garner more information on how TLDSB is currently:
 - ensuring all staff and community feel supported,
 - monitoring and revisiting customer service practice,
 - measuring efforts, and,
 - exploring alignment with Feed All Four.

Trustee Steve Binstock shared with SEAC:

- Trustees are highly supportive of students with special needs
- Very interested in results of PAG meetings

7. *Correspondence*

- There was no correspondence

8. *Future Business*

- Further FASD Discussion
- Further Customer Service Discussion
- Updates on PAG/ EA Allocation

DATE	FORMAT	UPDATES/ TO DO	PRESENTATION
2016			
January 5	Video Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L4A Review • Parent Guide Review • Exceptionality/Brochure/ Parent Information Discussion 	ASD
February 2	Video Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L4A Review • Parent Guide Review • Vision & Mission 	AETC Programs
March 1	Video Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L4A Review • Parent Guide Review • Customer Service Discussion 	FASD- TBC
April 5	Video Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L4A Review • Parent Guide Review 	CaPS
May 3	Video Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L4A Review • Parent Guide Review 	MMA
June 7	Annual End of Year Dinner- HCEC		Budget

9. *Next Meeting*

Tuesday, January 5, 2016
5pm – Videoconference

10. *Adjournment*

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