



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

Date: Tuesday, February 2, 2016
Time: 5pm
Location: Videoconference

Members Present: J. Balfour, S. Binstock, A. Brown, D. Callan, A. Gordon,
R. McHugh, D. Morrison, R. Vernescu

Regrets: L. Burgess, J. Hermer, J. Read

Staff Present: J. Andreasen, D. Golden, J. Johnston, K. MacIver

- Welcome Rose McHugh from Community Living Kawartha Lakes
- Loraine Morin, Community Representative, has resigned her position

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved by A. Brown, seconded by D. Morrison
That the agenda be approved as amended
Carried.

2. Approval of Minutes of January 6, 2016

Moved by A. Brown, seconded by A. Gordon
That the minutes from the January 6, 2016 SEAC meeting be approved as
presented
Carried.

3. Presentation: AETC Programs in TLDSB

TLDSB AETC Principal Dave Golden shared information about Alternative Education and Training (AETC) Programs in TLDSB with SEAC.

Some of the highlights include:

- Operate 6 AETC sites + Classroom in a Correctional Centre in CKL
- Offer traditional courses (English and Math etc.) + High Interest Courses (Sewing, Art, Food Prep)
- Day School Program occurs in 6 week blocks, 4 hours per day intensive learning; earn credit at the end
 - Student Profile: Students not progressing in mainstream (require different and/or smaller school setting)

- REAL Program- Return, Earn and Learn is a continuous intake program
 - Students who are not progressing well at school, struggling with addictions/ mental health and cannot attend full day; students can start any time, no timeline for credit completion, open program
- PLAR Program – Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition
 - For students 18+; accounts for life experience as credit equivalent - assists with graduation for adults who don't have HS diploma
- LBS- Literacy Basic Skills Program
 - Non-credit program for individuals who need to work on reading, writing and math skills in one instructor/ 2 student setting; no time limit; goal is to enhance confidence and skills
- Other programs include:
 - OYAP, Night School, Summer School, Dual Credit, Virtual Learning, PSW Program
- AETC instruction is differentiated for all students
- Transition plan and supports for students when they exit the program(s)

4. Department & System Updates

Superintendent Katherine MacIver shared the following updates with SEAC:

- CaPS:
 - On February 1, 2016 Schools, School Team and Community Partners got together to discuss CaPS (Collaborative and Proactive Solutions); School Teams and Coaches connected and planned implementation for their schools
- EA Allocations:
 - Currently the Specialized Services and Human Resources Departments are reviewing EA staffing and sharing reallocations with schools. Monday, February 8, 2016 is the turnover date where new allocations commence in schools (allows for allocation adjustments to account for students who have moved, new students to the board etc.).
 - The end goal is meaningful support and programming for students
- Newcomers to Canada:
 - TLDSB has struck a Committee about Newcomers to Canada for any new families who move into our board. Support will be provided for families, if/where needed
- Special Needs Strategy:
 - The CPS Proposals for both regions under the Special Needs Strategy are currently being reviewed with stakeholders and the involved Ministries
 - The Ministry plans on reviewing the IDRS proposals for both regions this spring with the intent to implement in September 2017

- Website:
 - Special Education Page
 - Expanded some of the information on website
 - Focus on quality programming despite diagnosis, exceptionality, or specific needs
 - Added sections to the website with resource links on FASD, Tourette, Mental Health & Wellness, Brain Injury – will be continuing to build a resource base for parents
 - Focus on effective communication with parents
 - Reviewing print resource options
 - Considering videos and visual resources

District Principal Jennifer Johnston shared the following with SEAC:

- DJ Cunningham Assistive Technology Presentation:
 - DJ Cunningham will be presenting in CKL in collaboration with the LDAP to speak to TLDSB students
 - The session is at Academy Theatre at 10:30am on Feb 18, 2016
 - SEAC members are welcome to attend
 - There is an evening presentation hosted by the LDAP at 7pm at Central Senior School
- Adobe Connects Professional Development Sessions:
 - Sessions are being offered to schools as professional development opportunities
 - Sessions are up to 2 hours in length and individuals do not have to leave their schools to participate
 - District Principal Johnston recently presented on the IPRC process including information on:
 - Process
 - Engaging parents
 - Legal requirements
- Bridging Program PD:
 - Teachers, EAs & Principals got together on Friday, Jan 29, 2016 to engage in Professional Development and brainstorming

5. Updates & Projects

- L4A Review:
 - SEAC Book Study
 - Review Pages 11-23
 - Ministry of Education Priorities
 - Achieving Excellence
 - Ensuring Equity
 - Promoting Well-being
 - Enhancing Public Confidence
 - Bridging the Gap
 - Universal Design for Learning

- Differentiated Instruction
 - *Fairness is not giving everyone the same thing. Fairness is giving each person what they need to succeed*
- Parent Guide Review
 - Approaching the introduction from perspective of: *My child has needs, how do I get help?*
 - Use as intro to parent guide + as synopsis on website/ connect to parent guide
 - Individual Education Plans – IEPs
 - Family Friendly Language
 - Brainstorming (shared for development of next steps)
 - Suggestions
 - Ensure literacy level appropriate
 - Acronym guide
- Mission & Vision Update
 - The Department of Specialized Services has been discussing vision and mission statements over the past year; *how do we define the work we are doing?*
 - Vision: *All students and staff flourishing and learning in an accepting and safe community*
 - Mission: *Together, we build capacity by supporting, innovating and inspiring a flourishing school community*

6. Association and Community News

- Janice Balfour from LDAP shared the following information:
 - LDAP will be hosting Mood Walks: 10 hikes will occur between May & Oct for youth 14-24; further information will be shared with SEAC as available
- Community Member Andrea Brown shared on behalf of Community Living South Muskoka:
 - There will be a Leap Year Party Saturday, February 27, 2016 at LIV Muskoka including live music, silent auction, games as a fundraiser for CLSM
- Roxana Vernescu of FASD ONE shared that the FASD ONE Biannual conference is occurring in March:
 - March 24 in Toronto
 - The link will be shared with SEAC

7. *Items for Discussion*

- LDAO & MACSE Update
 - Shared for Information
 - TLDSB will be providing feedback to MACSE
 - SEAC members are welcome to share feedback through TLDSB (possible solutions, future directions and other comments)
- Confirmation of Future Presentations
- Summary of Action Items from February SEAC:
 - ACTION: Reminder- Read pages 24-32 for March SEAC meeting
 - ACTION: Continue work on parent/guardian resources
 - ACTION: Form for MACSE input to be sent out- input to be shared by February 8, 2016

8. *Correspondence and Announcements*

- There was no correspondence
- Announcements & Discussion:
 - Discussion on the role of SEAC as an advisory Committee
 - Suggestion for training on the role of SEAC with the full group

9. *Future Business*

DATE	FORMAT	UPDATES/ TO DO	PRESENTATION
2016			
March 1	Video Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L4A Review (Pages 24-32) • Parent Guide Review • Customer Service Discussion 	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/ Young Warriors
June 7	Annual End of Year Dinner- HCEC		Budget

10. *Next Meeting*

Tuesday, March 1, 2016
5pm – Videoconference

11. *Adjournment*

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