

**GREATER ESSEX COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
REPORT OF THE  
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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The Special Education Advisory Committee meeting was held on **Tuesday, February 11, 2020** at the Administration Office.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Aimee Omstead, Trustee  
Martha Vukov, Community Living Windsor-Essex County  
Mary-Ann Fuduric, Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor-Essex County  
Monica Gilles, Windsor-Essex County Down Syndrome Association  
Jan Matte-Gasparovic, Autism Ontario  
Sheila Ruggaber, Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario  
Bette Turner, Home and School Instruction

**BOARD PERSONNEL**

Mike Wilcox, Superintendent of Special Education Services  
Kristie Sweet, Supervising Principal of Special Education Services

**REGRETS**

Cathy Cooke, Trustee  
Karen Wilson, Parents for Children's Mental Health  
Michelle Lowes, OPC Elementary Representative  
Theresa Williams, OPC Secondary Representative  
Kimberly John, Indigenous Community Representative

**ABSENT**

**RECORDER**

Peggy Russette

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: B. Turner

Seconded by: M. Fuduric

That SEAC approve the agenda for February 11, 2020.

The motion was carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: M. Fuduric

Seconded by: M. Vukov

That SEAC approve the Minutes for January 14, 2020.

The motion was carried.

4. Business Arising as a Result of the Minutes

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### 5. Special Education Presentation

M. Wilcox and K. Sweet went through the revisions so far on the Special Education Plan. The first 10 strands of 16 were covered:

Standard 1: The Board's Consultation Process

Standard 2: The Board's General Model for Special Education

Standard 3: Roles and Responsibilities

Standard 4: Early Identification Procedures and Intervention Strategies

Standard 5: The Identification, Placement and Review Committee Process And Appeals

Standard 6: Educational and Other Assessments

Standard 7: Specialized Health Support Services in School Settings

Standard 8: Categories and Definitions of Exceptionalities

Standard 9: Special Educations Placements Provided by the Board

Standard 10: Individual Education Plans (IEP's) and Transition Planning

The remainder of the Standards will be discussed at the April 2020 SEAC Meeting. The budget and staffing piece of the plan will be discussed when the information is available.

### 6. Special Education Update

PD Update:

- We have received \$34,000 in funding for PD opportunities focused on autism. This will provide online autism training to staff for approximately 113 registrants.
- Mindforce has been cancelled this year as it requires extensive preparation and this has not occurred due to work sanctions.

### 7. New Business

Our LD Research Project is under way. Funding has been extended this year. We are extending the project to French Immersion students. We will be working with the Program Department to move this project forward.

M. Wilcox drafted a letter to the Ministry of Education in support of the DDSB letter to the Minister of Education. Small revisions/suggestions came from the SEAC committee. The revised letter will be sent to the Minister of Education as well as all Ontario SEAC Committee Chairpersons. M. Fuduric mentioned that PAAC on SEAC submitted a collaboration form to the Ministry regarding MACSE. M. Wilcox reported that the GECD SB had submitted a required form to MACSE regarding challenges and successes in Special Education.

### 9. Association Reports

M. Vukov – Upcoming activities/presentations include “Ruby”, a workshop for young women 16 years of age and older, March 4, 11, 18 and 25<sup>th</sup>, “Re:Action4Inclusion”, a program provided in partnership with Community Living Ontario, and “Career Compass – Employment Services” Job Path and Youth in Action 2020.

M. Fuduric – The PAAC on SEAC survey has been extended to February 14<sup>th</sup>. OHRC Right to Read public inquiry – looking at human rights for students with reading disabilities. The survey is still open to parents. The survey for educators is coming. Check the LDAWE.ca website under “news”, at

<https://www.ldawe.ca/news/>

J. Matte-Gasparovic – There will be a symposium on March 31<sup>st</sup> at the Caboto. Autism Spokesperson, Temple Grandin will be presenting via Skype at this symposium in the morning and there will be break-out sessions in the afternoon.

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A. Omstead – February 29<sup>th</sup> is Rare Disease Day. The theme this year is “we are the 300 million”. The colour that day is denim blue. There will be a local event (dinner and fundraiser) held on Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at Beach Grove Golf and Country Club.

10. Distribution

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:53 pm.

Aimee Omstead, Chairperson  
Special Education Advisory Committee

Mike Wilcox, Administrative Liaison  
Special Education Advisory Committee

**NEXT MEETING Mach 10, 2020**

Board Meeting Minutes Available on GECD SB Website  
<https://publicboard.ca/Board/Meetings/Pages/default.aspx>

Erin Kelly  
Director of Education

Mike Wilcox  
Administrative Liaison

(Ministry SEAC Website) [www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/seac/](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/seac/)