

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

The Special Education Advisory Committee meeting was held on **Tuesday, June 11, 2019** at the Administration Office.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Cathy Cooke, Trustee  
Aimee Omstead, Trustee  
Martha Vukov, Community Living Windsor-Essex County  
Bette Turner, Home and School Associations  
Mary-Ann Fuduric, Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor-Essex County  
Monica Gilles, Windsor Essex County Down Syndrome Association  
Karen Wilson, Parents for Children's Mental Health  
Sheila Ruggaber, Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario  
Jan Matte-Gasparovic, Autism Ontario

**BOARD PERSONNEL:**

Mike Wilcox, Superintendent of Special Education Services  
Chris Mills, Supervising Principal of Special Education Services  
Tracey Rilett, OPC Elementary Representative  
Kristie Sweet, OPC Secondary Representative

**REGRETS:**

None

**ABSENT:**

Kimberly John, Indigenous Community – FNMI

**RECORDER:**

Peggy Russette

1. Call to Order  
M. Fuduric called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.
2. Approval of the Agenda  
Moved by: K. Wilson  
Seconded by: A. Omstead  
That SEAC approve the agenda for June 11, 2019. The motion was carried.
3. Approval of Minutes  
Moved by: C. Cooke  
Seconded by: K. Wilson  
That SEAC approve the minutes for May 14, 2019. The motion was carried.
4. Business Arising as a Result of the Minutes  
SEAC letters to Ministry were reviewed.  
SIP letter approved.  
FAS letter – approved  
Bill 64 – approved  
Bill 44 – approved  
These letters will be sent to the Ministry and other SEAC committees, the week of June 17, 2019.
5. Special Education Budget 2019-2020  
S. Maheux, Manager of Finance presented the proposed Special Education Budget for the 2019/2020 school year. He explained the different grants and expenses that are a part of the Special Education Budget.

Overall, the Grants amount has increased from 2018/2019, to 2019/2020. This amount covers the:

SEPPA, Special Education Per Pupil Amount  
SEA, Special Education Equipment Amount  
DSENA, Differentiated Special Education Needs Amount  
SIP, Special Incidence Portion  
CTCC, Care, Treatment, Custody and Correctional Amount

---

BEA, Behavioural Expertise Amount

M. Wilcox explained that the Local Priorities Funding was the result of the collective agreements signed in 2017/2018 until August 2019. It provided additional funding to have extra support staff in schools and has not been extended for the 2019/2020 school year.

**6. ODA (Ontarians with Disabilities Act) Plan 2019-2020**

S. Maheux reviewed the needs and the renovations that the Board has completed as well as the planned renovations for the 2019/2020 school year. M. Wilcox explained that there may be more projects that may not have been approved by the time the plan was made. S. Maheux added that as needs arise at different locations, they are assessed on an individual basis.

Moved by: K. Wilson

Seconded by: B. Turner

That SEAC recommend to the Board of Trustees to support the ODA Plan 2019/2020.

The motion was carried.

**7. Special Education Plan for 2019 Review**

M. Wilcox and C. Mills revised the plan according to Ministry guidelines. M. Wilcox reviewed the final changes which included the numbers for GAINS and STEPS classes. Coronation, LaSalle and King Edward P.S. will all be adding a GAINS classroom and Western S.S. will be adding a STEPS classroom.

The plan was outlined (16 standards):

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

Standard 11: Provincial Demonstration Schools in Ontario

Standard 12: Special Education Staff

Standard 13: Staff Development

Standard 14: Equipment

Standard 15: Accessibility of School Buildings

Standard 16: Transportation

Moved by: B. Turner

Seconded by: M. Gilles

That SEAC recommend to the Board of Trustees to support the Special Education Plan for 2019/2020.

The motion was carried.

**8. New Business**

There was no new business.

**9. Association Reports**

*Parents for Children's Mental Health*

On hiatus, will resume the first Thursday in September

*Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario*

Holding Wacky Wednesday Summer Camp for children and siblings. The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Seize the Day is coming up, as well as a Youth Conference in London on July 27<sup>th</sup>.

*Autism Ontario*

---

Service Navigator for Autism Ontario, Kathleen Fobister, encouraging parents to phone and speak with her regarding service provider list.

*Home and School Associations*  
Busy with end of year activities.

*Community Living Windsor-Essex County*

"Youth In Action is a program for students with intellectual disabilities looking for summer jobs.

The goal is to provide students the opportunity to earn money during the summer, while adding skills and experience to their resume.

Students hired by local businesses will be paired with a post secondary student job coach, employed by Community Living Essex County. Their role will be to work alongside students and employers to mentor and guide them, ensuring they understand and complete all work related duties.

In addition to providing opportunities for students to develop valuable skills and experiences, your business will be highlighted on our social media channels and website as a community leader in inclusive hiring.

We ask that businesses commit to hiring a student for a part-time 7 week placement (July 8 - August 17, for a minimum of 4 hours a week), paying a student minimum wage, and allow student job coaches to work alongside the student employee they are paired with.

I am available to meet in person to give additional information or answer any questions your company may have."

We had over 30 applicants this year and are still looking to connect with business willing to participate and hire a student!

*Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor-Essex County*

There are some spots left for the summer program. Two sites are full, but there is still room in Essex. This is a 5-week program.

10. Distribution  
ODA 2019-2020 Plan

11. Adjournment  
Moved by: K. Wilson  
Seconded by: M. Vukov  
The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Mary-Ann Fuduric, Chairperson  
Special Education Advisory Committee

Mike Wilcox, Administrative Liaison  
Special Education Advisory Committee

**NEXT MEETING September 10, 2019**

**Board Meeting Minutes Available on GECDSB 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/)