

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

The Special Education Advisory Committee meeting was held on **Tuesday, June 9, 2020** via Microsoft Teams Meeting.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Aimee Omstead, Trustee
Cathy Cooke, Trustee
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
Jan Matte-Gasparovic, Autism Ontario
Sheila Ruggaber, Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario

BOARD PERSONNEL

Mike Wilcox, Superintendent of Special Education Services
Kristie Sweet, Supervising Principal of Special Education Services
Michelle Lowes, OPC Elementary Representative

REGRETS

Kimberly John, Indigenous Community Representative
Martha Vukov, Community Living Windsor-Essex County
Bette Turner, Home and School Instruction
Theresa Williams, OPC Secondary Representative

ABSENT

RECORDER

Peggy Russette

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: J. Matte Gasparovic

Seconded by: C. Cooke

That SEAC approve the agenda for June 9, 2020.

The motion was carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: K. Wilson

Seconded by: M. Fuduric

That SEAC approve the Minutes for May 12, 2020.

The motion was carried.

4. Business Arising as a Result of the Minutes

As directed by the Ministry, we are following through with IPRC waivers. For initial IPRCs, our Ed Coordinators are reaching out to those families. Ed Coordinators are also working on transition meetings as well. If parents are not waiving the IPRC process a meeting will be held we will be

June 9, 2020

reaching out to those families. These meetings are currently being held via Microsoft Teams Meetings.

5. Special Education Update

PD Update

- ABA Power Hour, Session 4 and 5
- CYW and DSW Behaviour and Safety Plan training
- Webinar on Synchronous Learning
- Boardmaker software
- Possible Summer Institutes – Differentiated Instruction, New to GAINS, Applied Behaviour and Analysis in Early Years, Coding and Robotics in Self-contained Classroom, Writing Meaningful IEPs
- The Program Department will be offering Music in the Gains Classroom

Update on Supporting Students During School Closures

- Our Special Education Department continues to communicate to our school administrators the importance of maintaining communication with our families with children/youth with Special Education needs
- Extending additional Lexia (Core5 and PowerUp) licenses until the end of August 2020 to support literacy learning
- Continuing our ABA Power Hour PD sessions for Educational Support Staff (ESS) into June
- Continue to update our Speech and Language activity resources on the GECDSB website throughout the summer
- Continuing to partner with LDA-WE to provide virtual AT training over the summer to our students who have received SEA equipment
- Provide Best Practices webinars for GAINS Teachers, RISE Teachers and Learning Support Teachers
- Partnering with JMCC School Authority to provide PD to our GAINS teachers on creating a synchronous classroom as part of our summer professional development series
- Early Years Structured Learning sessions are being developed for our Early Years Teams
- Partnering with Autism Ontario (Windsor branch) to enhance the provision of activity bins for families with children who have autism

ODA Plan 2020-2021 Review

M. Wilcox went over the ODA Plan 2020-2021 with the SEAC committee members. Requests are submitted by the school principal to the Facility Services Department. A visit to the school by GECDSB staff or JMCC staff will follow to determine what may be needed to support individual students.

Possible Future Meeting Dates

We will require a meeting in July as the GSN may not be available until the end of June.

6. Change of First Meeting Date for 2020-2021 School Year

Moved by: C. Cooke

Seconded by: K. Wilson

That SEAC approve to move the September 2020 meeting date from September 8th to September 15th.

The motion was carried.

June 9, 2020

7. New Business

There were questions regarding learning opportunities for students who stay home due to parent concerns, as parents may choose this option in September. M. Wilcox explained that the Board is looking at various models of what this may look like within our board. We will continue to support our families as much as possible. More information will be coming from the Ministry during the summer. As well, information will be shared as the Board's re-entry plan is developed. Information will be shared with families as early as possible.

8. Association Reports

K. Wilson, Parents for Children's Mental Health – first virtual support group was held last week. They continue working on how to best support families.

M. Fuduric, Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor-Essex County – LDA cancelled summer camps. They are offering numerous other programs during the summer. Check website for more information.

9. Distribution

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Aimee Omstead, Chairperson
Special Education Advisory Committee
Committee

Mike Wilcox, Administrative Liaison
Special Education Advisory

NEXT MEETING September 15, 2020

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/