

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

The Special Education Advisory Committee meeting was held on **Tuesday, November 12, 2019** at the Administration Office.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Cathy Cooke, Trustee
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
Karen Wilson, Parents for Children's Mental Health
Jan Matte-Gasparovic, Autism Ontario
Kimberly John, Indigenous Community
Sarah Noel – Home and School Associations

BOARD PERSONNEL:

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

REGRETS:

Sheila Ruggaber, Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario
Bette Turner, Home and School Associations

ABSENT:

RECORDER:

Peggy Russette

1. Call to Order
M. Fuduric called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.
2. Approval of the Agenda
Moved by: A. Omstead
Seconded by: M. Vukov
That SEAC approve the agenda for November 12, 2019. The motion was carried.
3. Approval of Minutes
Moved by: K. Wilson
Seconded by: M. Vukov
That SEAC approve the revised minutes for October 8, 2019. The motion was carried.
4. Business Arising as a Result of the Minutes

K. Wilson revisited the reverse integration for STEPS/GAINS. K. Wilson said that STEPS/GAINS students would like to be part of a regular classroom (e.g. drama, music, art). She added that there is research that reverse integration is not positive. M. Wilcox requested that K. Wilson pass on this research to SEAC. M. Wilcox added that we do have many great things going on in our schools, both integration and reverse integration. He gave an example of an overnight trip with Belle River DHS STEPS and one of the history classes. This was very successful!
5. Speech and Language Delivery Model – Dr. Marc Crundwell

SLP Scope of Practice

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- The SLP Scope of practice has been refined for the 2019-2020 school year – it continues to be based on an early assessment and early intervention model to support language development
 - The primary focus of the model is the Early Assessment Early Intervention Model in the JK-Grade 1 program in which the SLPs will provide Tier 1, 2, and 3 services within these classrooms as prioritized with school administration. This will include teacher and staff consultation, small group in-class interventions with a focus on “pull in” services and not pulling out students from class; formal assessments as required, ongoing informal assessments, and articulation therapy (a student may receive two blocks of 8 sessions between JK and Gr 1).
 - In a number of schools the CDAs, under the supervision of a SLP, will provide increased small group interventions in the JK to Gr 1 classrooms to support language development
 - SLPs will also provide ongoing services as a secondary part of their scope for students between JK-grade 12 which include consultations, meeting with school administration and LSTs, GAINS and STEPS consultations, RISE consultations, assessments on a case-by-case basis, and articulation therapy for one block for students in grade 2 who had previously receive two blocks in JK-grade 1.
 - Children in grade 2 and above will not receive direct therapy interventions
 - Referrals for selective mutism and central auditory processing disorders will follow a consultative multi-discipline team model
 - French Immersion schools will continue to support Tier 1 SLP services, while students requiring language support or functional communication will receive consultative services (no direct intervention)

6. Special Education Update

PD Update:

- Nov 6 – GAINS PD
- Nov 7 – Mini IEP Workshop
- Nov 12 – NTIP LAB – Differentiating Instruction
- Nov 15 – In a Family’s Shoes, Restorative Practices, Identify Literacy
- Nov 18 – NTIP LAB – Assistive Technology
- Nov 19 – Green Screen Fun
- Nov 22 – IEP Audit - Elementary
- Empower Evening sessions for our parents

Professional Assessments Update:

Professional Assessment funds were used to purchase materials for SLP assessments, develop a tracking system with our I.T. department, and to complete 69 psychological assessments at the end of August. This does not include the Jordan’s Principle assessments that we have helped families apply for through Toni Lauzon. Jordan’s Principle has resulted in hiring additional ESS, provided families funding to get assessments completed, and purchase sensory equipment, technology, training, etc.

7. New Business

Tim McCarthy, Behaviour Management Specialist, who has been with the board for 36 years, has retired. Samantha Mulcaster, who is a Board Certified Behaviour Analyst, will be moving into this role.

PRO Grant

This grant is available every year. There is specific criteria to follow when submitting applications. GECDSB has been given funds and staff within our board can apply for funding. M. Wilcox specifically asked if anyone would like to be on the committee that approves the PRO Grant requests. No one expressed interest. There is funding available for SEAC. In the past, funding has been requested for support for indigenous families. The mental health nights were also funded through this grant.

PAAC on SEAC Survey

The SEAC committee members were asked to complete this survey. The link will be sent out to SEAC committee members.

8. Association Reports

K. Wilson – The PCMH Executive Director will be coming to provide PD at Hotel Dieu/Grace Hospital. The next PCMH meeting will be held on December 5, 2019 from 1:00 – 2:30 pm at Community Living Windsor.

J. Matte Gasparovic – Would like GECDSB to partner with Autism Ontario to provide BMST for parents.

M. Gilles – Program called “Help your child/young adult with down syndrome to read”. There has been great response.

K. John – For the past 3 years, IEAC has been formulating territorial acknowledgement. K. John talked about the moving mural at West Gate as well as the permanent mural at Westview. They contain all the elements that the school board is using. Jordan’s Principle has assisted with the hiring of three support workers that are indigenous and will service children that are identified.

9. Distribution

A copy of Dr. Crundwell’s power point presentation will be distributed to SEAC committee members.

10. Adjournment

Moved by: A. Omstead

Seconded by: K. John

The meeting adjourned at 2:17 pm.

Mary-Ann Fuduric, Chairperson
Special Education Advisory Committee

Mike Wilcox, Administrative Liaison
Special Education Advisory Committee

NEXT MEETING December 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/