

**Special Education Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Limestone District School Board**

December 19, 2018

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee was held in Barry C. O'Connor Board Room at the Limestone Education Centre, 220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, Ontario, on Wednesday, December 19, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees: K. McGregor, Chair
B. Godkin, Trustee

Members: C. Whalen, Family & Children's Services, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington
D. Jalovcic, Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston
S. Henderson-Todd, Lennox and Addington Resources for Children
E. Sheldon, Community Living Kingston
B. Shoniker, Member-at-Large

Staff: H. Box, Special Education Program Coordinator
L. Conboy, Mental Health Lead
K. Leggett, Vice-Principal of Educational Services
A. McDonnell, Associate Superintendent, Learning for All
J. Murphy, Special Education Program Coordinator
L. Rousseau, Educational Services and Safe Schools Coordinator
D. Scarlett, Principal of Educational Services

Regrets: C. Tooley, Down Syndrome Association Kingston
A. Collins, Easter Seals
N. Carson, Epilepsy South Eastern Ontario
A. Martin, Member-at-Large (Queen's University)
N. Nicholson, Autism Ontario-Kingston Chapter
S. Burnett, Special Education Program Coordinator

Recorder: Liz Strange, Records Management Coordinator

1. Welcome

Trustee McGregor called the meeting to order, welcoming all those in attendance to the meeting.

Trustee McGregor read the Indigenous greeting:

"The Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of Métis, Inuit and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land."

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: B. Shoniker, that the agenda, as presented, be approved. Carried.

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. Business Arising From the Minutes

None at this time.

5. Community Partner Presentation: Community Living Kingston – Erin Sheldon

Erin Sheldon provided a presentation on the transition planning process for students with intellectual/developmental disabilities.

Community Living Kingston strives to:

- Understand how the EDU, OHRC and UN Conventions on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities affect how we consider transition planning.
- Understand supported decision-making vs substitute decision making.
- Identify the individualized supports our students need to be “the architects of their own lives.”
- Discover tools & strategies to support our students to imagine and implement a vision for their own life.
- Support our families to learn how to support their student to make decisions, rather than make decisions for them.

The transition programming focuses on person-centered vs system-centered, decision making, and the core concept is to identify what is ‘important to’ the client over what is ‘important for’ the client.

Supported decision-making is a process and a commitment to listen, learn, & act to maximize each person’s control & autonomy over their own life.

Community Living Kingston uses several different tools in their transition planning, including a one-page profile, life trajectory worksheet, communications charts, decision-making agreements and more.

6. Educational Services Update: LDSB Mental Health Strategy – Laura Conboy

Laura Conboy, LDSB Mental Health Lead, provided an update on the Board’s Mental Health & Well-being strategy.

The following resources were shared from School Mental Health ASSIST:

- Flipchart of key concepts
- Quick desk reference for key concepts
- Top 10 conditions for effective school mental health practices
- Decision SupportTool
- Newsletter
- Series of Tip Sheets
- Research-in-Briefs
- Leading Mentally Healthy Schools Reflection Tool

The LDSB Mental Health & Well-Being Strategy seeks to build capacity in mental health awareness and literacy, strengthen engagement with students, families, staff and our community and enhance collaboration with community partners in providing a system of care.

L. Conboy provided an overview of the tiered approach to providing care, and the allocation of the four new social workers in the system.

7. Correspondence

- Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board

A letter in response to the letter from the Victoria, Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District school Board regarding the Auditor General's Annual Report 2017.

- Brant Haldimand Norfolk District School Board

A letter regarding support of Bill 44 as it relates to students who may have a FASD diagnosis.

8. Association Updates

As circulated with the meeting package.

9. Other Business

- i) Ministry Updates – Associate Superintendent Alison McDonnell

Pilot to Support Transitions to Postsecondary Pathways for Students with Developmental Disabilities

Limestone District School Board is one of eight boards that were selected for this pilot. The first online professional learning community took place in October. Limestone District School Board is looking at developing online information to support student transition planning, and is actively seeking student voice to move the project forward. The group will also review the tools being used in other districts.

The funding for this pilot is not affected by the recent changes to the EPO grants.

- ii) SEAC Membership

The committee members will be approved at the January Board meeting, and the new four-year term will start in February 2019.

10. Next Meeting Date

January 23, 2019

11. Adjournment

MOVED BY: B. Shoniker, that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.