

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

October 23, 2019

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, October 23, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

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

Members: N. Carson, Epilepsy South Eastern Ontario
P. Dendy, Member-at-Large
S. Henderson-Todd, Lennox and Addington Resources for Children
D. Jalovcic, Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston
A. Martin, Member-at-Large (Queen's University)
E. Sheldon, Community Living Kingston
C. Tooley, Down Syndrome Association Kingston
C. Whalen, Family & Children's Services, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington

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

Regrets: L. Conboy, Mental Health Lead
L. Sansom, Association for Bright Children of Ontario
S. Burnett, Special Education Program Coordinator
J. Murphy, Special Education Program Coordinator
N. Nicholson, Autism Ontario-Kingston Chapter

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 Acknowledgement:

"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: Trustee Godkin, 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. Presentation: EQAO Results for Student with Special Needs

Associate Superintendent McDonnell stated that for the Primary level (Grade 3) 67% of students met the provincial reading standard, which is a three-percentage-point increase from the average of the previous three years. 56% met the provincial writing standard, a six-percentage-point decrease from the average of the previous three years.

At the provincial level in Grade 3 74% of students met the provincial reading standard, which is consistent with the average of the previous three years, and 69% met the provincial writing standard, a four-percentage-point decrease from the average of the previous three years.

In LDSB in Grade 3 45% met the provincial math standard, a three-percentage-point decrease from the average of the previous three years. For the province 58% met the provincial math standard, a 4% decrease from the average of the past 3 years. Both the board and province have experienced a net 5% drop over the past 4 years.

For the LDSB Junior level (Grade 6) 72% of students met the provincial reading standard, which is a three-percentage-point decrease from the average of the previous three years, and 71% met the provincial writing standard, a two-percentage-point increase over the average of the previous three years.

For the province in Grade 6 81% of students met the provincial reading standard, which is consistent with the average of the previous three years, and 82% met the provincial writing standard, a two-percentage-point increase over the average of the previous three years.

In LDSB in Grade 6 33% met the provincial math standard, a two-percentage-point decrease from the average of the previous three years. For the province 48% met the provincial math standard, a one-percentage-point decrease from the average of the previous three years.

For the results for Students with Special needs the numbers would include any student with an IEP (identified or unidentified). 31% of LDSB students at the Primary level have special education needs versus 19% for province.

In LDSB for Grade 3 45% of students met the provincial reading standard, which is a six-percentage-point increase from the average of the previous three years, and 39% met the provincial writing standard, a nine-percentage-point decrease from the average of the previous three years.

For the province in Grade 3 47% of students met the provincial reading standard, which is a three-percentage-point increase from the average of the previous three years, and 47% met the provincial writing standard, a five-percentage-point decrease from the average of the previous three years.

In LDSB in Grade 3 21% met the provincial math standard, which is consistent with the average of the previous three years. For the province in Grade 3 26% met the provincial math standard, a three-percentage-point decrease from the average of the previous three years.

For the Junior level (Grade 6) 34% of LDSB students have special education needs versus 22% for province.

In LDSB in Grade 6 47% of students met the provincial reading standard, which is a three-percentage-point decrease from the average of the previous three years, and 45% met the provincial writing standard, which is relatively consistent with the average of the previous three years.

For the province in Grade 6 53% of students met the provincial reading standard, which is consistent with the average of the previous three years, and 54% met the provincial writing standard, a three-percentage-point increase over the average of the previous three years.

In LDSB in Grade 6 13% met the provincial math standard, a two-percentage-point increase from the average of the previous three years. For the province 17% met the provincial math standard, a one-percentage-point decrease from the average of the previous three years.

For LDSB the participation rate in the OSSLT (Ontario Secondary Student Literacy test) for first time eligible students is 96%, while the province is 93%. In LDSB 41% of students with special education needs were successful on the OSSLT.

versus 83% of students without special education needs who were successful on the OSSLT.

For Grade 9 math there remains a significant difference in success rate between students with special needs and those without, at both the academic and applied levels.

The Board's 5-year graduation rate is 85.5%, while the province is 87%.

P. Dendy asked if EQAO assessment practices are in line with UDL. Associate Superintendent McDonnell answered that EQAO is looking at their practices and that changes should be expected in the near future.

6. Educational Services Update – Minds Online

Principal Scarlett and H. Box reviewed the Board's Minds Online platform, where educators have access to numerous resources to assist in supporting students with special needs.

In the IEP resource section there are resources on how to use IEP writer, IEP content, exemplars, PD, FAQs, etc.

The Autism team has an Autism LDSB site accessible through the Board's intranet where there are videos, resources, team composition, etc. There is also a link to the ABA After School program.

C. Tooley asked if parents have access to these resources. H. Box answered that they are internal resources with only staff access. Educational Services is looking to develop something similar for parents.

7. Correspondence

- Conseil Scolaire Catholique Providence

8. Association Updates

As circulated with the meeting package.

9. Other Business

- i) Ministry Updates – Associate Superintendent Alison McDonnell

- Transportation Supports for Children and Youth in Care

The Ministry of Education has provided an "application-based program to provincially-funded district school boards to support school stability for children and youth in care. This (funding) allows students in care to temporarily remain in their home schools when they experience a residence change that typically require them to switch schools during the school year. Transportation to the home school is provided

when it is in the student's best interest until a more natural transition time (e.g., end of the semester or school year)."

ii) SEAC Goal Setting

The members participated in a brain-storming session to suggest possible new SEAC Goals. It was decided that the suggested goals that were brainstormed by SEAC members would be collated and shared with members for decision at the November 20, 2019 SEAC meeting.

iii) Community Partner Presentations

Members were asked to sign up for a meeting to present information about their organization.

Members were asked to bring forward topic ideas for information or discussion.

10. Next Meeting Date

November 20, 2019 at 6 p.m.

11. Adjournment

MOVED BY: P. Dendy, that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.