

Limestone District School Board
Special Education Advisory Committee
SEAC Meeting

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

**Limestone District School Board Education Centre
220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston**

6:00 pm

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
- 3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**
- 4. Business Arising From the Minutes**
- 5. Community Partner Presentation-Community Living Kingston-Erin Sheldon**
- 6. Educational Services Update-LDSB Mental Health Strategy-Mental Health Lead, Laura Conboy**
- 7. Correspondence (attached)**
 - a) Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board
 - b) Brant Haldimand Norfolk
- 8. Association Updates (Attached)**
- 9. Other Business**
 - i) Ministry Updates –Associate Superintendent Alison McDonnell
 - Pilot to Support Transitions to Postsecondary Pathways for Students with Developmental Disabilities-Associate Superintendent Alison McDonnell and Principal Darlene Scarlett
 - ii) SEAC Membership - Associate Superintendent Alison McDonnell

10. Next Meeting Date

January 23, 2019

11. Adjournment



**WINDSOR-ESSEX CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

Student Achievement K-12

1325 California Avenue
Windsor, ON N9B 3Y6
CHAIRPERSON: Barbara Holland
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION: Terry Lyons
Telephone: (519) 253-2481 FAX: (519)253-0620

October 24, 2018

Honorable Lisa M. Thompson
Minister of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street Toronto, ON M7A1L2

RECEIVED
Limestone District School Board
DEC 03 2018
Alison McDonnell

Dear Minister Thompson:

On behalf of the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) we are writing in support of the letter previously sent to former Minister of Education, Indira Naidoo-Harris, by the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board regarding the findings contained in the Auditor General of Ontario's Annual Report, 2017. Specifically, as referenced by PVNCCDSB:

The Auditor General found that benchmarks in the funding formula and the dollar amount assigned to that factor are out-of-date. In 2002, an independent task force reviewed the formula used by the Ministry to determine funding to school boards and recommended that the Ministry annually review and update the benchmarks, as well as conduct a more comprehensive review of the formula every 5 years. While the Ministry updates the labour costs annually, the other benchmarks have not been updated, and still reflect census data which is more than 10 years old. (p.429). When demographics such as income levels and immigration patterns are not reflected in the benchmarks, this creates a funding inequity between the various regions of the province.

The Auditor General's recommendation to remedy this inequity is as follows:

"To ensure that the funds are allocated in a manner that supports school boards in providing a high standard of education to all students, we recommend the Ministry of Education:

- *Conduct a comprehensive external review of the funding formula, including all grant components and benchmarks, as recommended by the Education Equity Funding Task Force in 2002;*
- *Regularly review the formula and update all benchmarks to reflect the province's changing demographics and socio-economic conditions; and*
- *Use the more current census data available when determining allocations for grants." (p.441)*

The percentage of students with special education needs receiving programs and services at the WECDSB has continued to rise and is now over 20%. WECDSB's inclusive model of Special Education service delivery expresses its commitment to educate each child to the maximum extent in the classroom they attend. It involves bringing the support services to the child rather than moving the child to the services. This vision is aligned with the Ministry's Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario (Achieving Excellence), which outlines a strong commitment to achieving equity in access to learning for students with special education needs. Both the Ministry's vision and WECDSB's model put into place the programs, supports and services that are essential to enable students with special education needs to achieve personal excellence.

November 21, 2018

Hon. Lisa M. Thompson
Minister of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

RECEIVED
Limestone District School Board
12/03/18
Alison McDonnell

Dear Hon. Lisa M. Thompson,

The Special Education Advisory Committee to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board supports Grand Erie District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committees' request for support of Bill 44. We request that the Ministry of Education amend the Education Act so that every Board shall promote awareness and understanding of permanent brain injury resulting for prenatal alcohol exposure, including best practices to support pupils who may have FASD.

Thank you and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Teresa Westergaard-Hager
Co-Chair
Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board
Special Education Advisory Committee

C: Chairs of Ontario Special Education Advisory Committees





We're Putting Wellness First



We're Turning Innovation into Action



We're Committed to Collaboration

Education Policy & Operations Committee

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC)

DECEMBER 19, 2018

(i) Ministry Updates

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

LDSB is part of a Ministry of Education pilot focused on supporting transitions to post-secondary pathways for students with developmental disabilities. The scope (outcomes) of the project in LDSB include:

- Increase the number of students who successfully transition to community opportunities, paid employment and post-secondary education opportunities;
- Increase awareness of the life beyond school pathway options for parents, caregivers, students, educators, community agencies and employers and;
- Increase educator capacity to develop students' abilities to achieve their pathway of choice.

As part of this pilot, LDSB will continue to work with both lead and supporting boards and the Ministry of Education as part of a professional learning community.

(ii) SEAC Membership

SEAC members will be appointed by the new Board of Trustees for the next four-year term at the January 23, 2019 Board meeting and will begin their term in February 2019. Chair and Vice Chair of SEAC will be elected at the February 20, 2019 SEAC meeting.

Report Prepared By: Alison McDonnell, Associate Superintendent, Learning For All