

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 11, 2024

Public Meeting

Roll Call:

Trustees:	Members:
T. Lloyd (Regrets) K. McGregor	Present: H. Clark, Autism Ontario E. Clow, Member-at-Large K. Hill, Member-at-Large H. Simson, Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston Z. Rogers, Community Living Kingston Jennifer Barker, Lennox & Addington Resources for Children L. Clouthier, Easter Seals Ontario Regrets: A. Martin, Member-at-Large (Queen's University)
Invitees:	Staff:
	Present: M. Blackburn, Principal of Educational Services S. Gillam, Superintendent, Learning for All C. Snider, Special Education Program Coordinator M. Aylsworth, Special Education Program Coordinator M. West, Special Education Program Coordinator L. Conboy, Mental Health Lead W. Fisher, Educational Services and Safe Schools Coordinator J. Lalonde, Special Education Program Coordinator N. Dillard, Vice-Principal of Educational Services T. Bonham-Carter, Special Education Program Coordinator
Guests:	Recorder:
None at this time.	J. Senior, Administrative Assistant

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee.

1. WELCOME

Chair McGregor called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chair McGregor read the Acknowledgement of Territory:

“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.”

Superintendent Scot Gillam welcomed new and returning SEAC Members.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOVED BY: Erin Clow that the agenda be approved. Carried.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None at this time.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY: Erin Clow that the June 12, 2024, IEC Minutes be approved. Carried.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Superintendent Scot Gillam shared that LDSB is currently flying the Survivors Flag to honour Truth and Reconciliation in preparation for September 30, 2024, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We have also sent out a number of resources and support documents to the district so that teachers can spend some thoughtful time teaching students about the impact of residential schools and the trauma and ensuring that those that need support are receiving this message.

6. EDUCATION SERVICES UPDATE

6.1 Potential SEAC Presentation Topics – Superintendent Scot Gillam invited SEAC Members to suggest ideas for presentation topics for the 2024-2025 SEAC Meetings. SEAC Members are requested to either email their ideas to Jill Senior before the October 16, 2024, meeting or bring their suggestions to the meeting to compile a list. Helen Simson, Learning Disabilities Association of Kingston, did give the following suggestion:

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how quickly this will be in our children’s classrooms

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6.2 Special Education Plan – Superintendent Scot Gillam explained that the Special Education Plan is a mandatory annual submission to the Ministry. This plan updates our service delivery, staffing, and the number of self-contained programs at the elementary level. SEAC Members are encouraged to review the plan on our website. Additionally, it will be presented for review at the October 16, 2024, SEAC Meeting.

6.3 Special Education Summer Learning and Summer Mental Health Supports – Principal Michael Blackburn and Mental Health Lead Laura Conboy highlighted the Summer Learning and Mental Health Support programs conducted over the summer. A comprehensive report on the Ministry funding for these programs will be presented at the October 16, 2024, SEAC Meeting.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Conseil Scolaire Catholique Nouvelon - Letter to Minister of Education regarding Transportation Support for Students with Special Education Needs. Provided for information.

7.2 Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE) - February 27, 2024, Meeting Highlights. Provided for information.

8. ASSOCIATION UPDATES

8.1 Autism Ontario Updates-September 2024 – Report from Haley Clark. Provided for information.

8.2 Easter Seals Ontario – Linda Clouthier provided details about the 4th Annual Grayson Cup Golf Outing, scheduled for Monday, October 7, 2024. This event supports children and youth with physical disabilities.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Administrative Report: Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Scot Gillam reviewed the Superintendent's Report that was included in the Agenda Package.

9.2 Attendance Matters Presentation – Superintendent Scot Gillam delivered a comprehensive presentation on the Attendance Improvement Campaign. The key points of the presentation are summarized as follows:

- **Ministry Expectations:** The plan includes measuring student attendance rates and ensuring support for students absent due to mental health concerns.
- **Importance of Attendance:** Regular attendance is crucial for academic success, social and emotional development, and future preparation.
- **Data Utilization:** Using data to monitor and understand attendance patterns and trends.
- **Engagement Strategies:** Emphasizing the role of teachers, caregivers, and the community in promoting daily attendance through clear communication, shared goals, and collaborative problem-solving.
- **Interventions and Support:** Implementing school-level supports and stress management programs to help students manage challenges and build resilience.

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10. NEXT MEETING DATE

October 16, 2024

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY: Member-at-Large Erin Clow, that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm.