



## Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday, March 10, 2022

6:00 PM

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

### MINUTES

#### Present:

##### Chair:

W. Rose, Community Representative

##### Community Rep(s):

C. Brady M. Gatopoulos K. Jones T. Sault  
J. Trovato T. Wilson

##### Trustees:

R. Collver

##### Grand Erie Staff:

P. Bagchee, Mental Health & Well-Being Lead  
F. Lainson, Program Coordinator – Special Education  
L. Sheppard, Program Coordinator - Applied Behaviour Analysis  
L. Thompson, Superintendent of Education – Special Education  
J. White, Principal Leader – Special Education  
L. Boswell, Information Services/Resource Coordinator, Contact Brant  
T. Buchanan, Supervisor of Employee Supports, Community Living Brant  
L. DeJong, Social Worker – Vice-Chair, Lansdowne Children's Centre  
A. Csoff, Board of Directors, Haldimand-Norfolk R.E.A.C.H.  
Dr. L. Scott, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, Ontario Network of  
Enterprise

##### Native Rep.

L. Nydam

#### Absent with Regrets: T. Waldschmidt, Trustee

**Absent:** A. Detmar, Tele-Mental Health Coordinator, Woodview Mental Health and Autism Services

**Guests:** K. Graham Superintendent of Education -Secondary  
M. Jacques, Presenter  
M. Jacques, Presenter  
D. Smith-Rayoff, Social Worker

**Recording Secretary** L. Thompson

#### A - 1 Opening

##### (a) Welcome

Chair. Rose called the meeting to order and provided the Land Acknowledgment.

##### (b) Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval

Add: Future Agenda Items

1. Letter – Wait Times for Psychological Assessments
  2. The Ontario Human Rights Commission Report on the Right to Read
- Delete: Nil

Moved by: L. Boswell

Seconded by: C. Brady

THAT the SEAC 21-07 Agenda for Thursday, March 10, 2022 be approved as amended.

**Carried**



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#### B - 1 Timed Items

##### (a) Learning with Michael Jacques- Here's My Book!

Author Michael Jacques, a young person who has autism and an intellectual disability, shared his journey to writing his first book "Can't Read. Can't Write. Here's My Book." and his many accomplishments in both his local community, and abroad, along the way. Michael, alongside his father Marcel, shared an inspiring story that compels us all to focus on authentic inclusion of students with special education needs.

##### (b) A Day in the Life of the Social Worker

D. Smith-Rayoff, Social Worker shared an overview of the role of the social worker and the daily responsibilities of the social worker within a tiered approach to learning and intervention supports.

#### C - 1 Business Arising from Minutes and/or Previous Meetings

##### (a) Ratification of Minutes from Thursday, February 17, 2022

Moved by: M. Gatopoulos

Seconded by: C. Brady

THAT the SEAC 21-06 minutes for Thursday, February 17, 2022 be approved as circulated.

**Carried**

##### (b) PPM167 Online Learning Graduation Requirement

Superintendent Graham joined the meeting to share the expectations outlined in PPM167 Online Learning Graduation Requirement and how Grand Erie is implementing the information in the PPM for all students, including those with special education needs.

##### (c) Entry to School for Students on the Autism Spectrum

L. Sheppard, Applied Behaviour Analysis Coordinator, introduced the Entry to School program that is a collaboration between Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS), Community organizations and Schools Boards. Grand Erie is collaborating with Lansdowne Children's Centre and Haldimand/Norfolk REACH.

The Entry to School program is for children that are entering school for the first time (ages 3-5), have a diagnosis of autism and have received a letter of invitation to participate from the Ministry. The program is 12 months in length, the first six months of the program are held prior to school entry and the following six months are consultation and collaboration with school boards and families as the student starts school.

Concerns related to equity of access to this program were discussed.



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#### D - 1 **New Business**

Nil

#### E - 1 **Other Business**

Nil

#### F - 1 **Standing Items**

##### (a) **Policies/Procedures Out for Comment**

Comments on currently reviewed policies or procedures may be submitted to [policiesandprocedures@granderie.ca](mailto:policiesandprocedures@granderie.ca) according to the timeline listed.

#### **Trustee Updates**

- i. Trustee Collver thanked the special education team for supporting students and educators and wished us all a wonderful March break. She reminded SEAC members that the government had released new health and safety guidelines related to Covid 19 that are to come into effect beginning March 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### G - 1 **Information Items**

Nil

#### H - 1 **Community Updates**

Nil

#### I - 1 **Correspondence**

- (a) Letter- Dufferin Peel CDSB re Changes to COVID Protocols Feb 18, 2022
- (b) Letter – Durham DSB re Change Definition Feb 22, 2022
- (c) Letter – Durham DSB re PPM81 Feb 25, 2022
- (d) Letter – Halton DSB re Opposition to PPM81 Change Feb 10, 2022
- (e) Letter – Thunder Bay CDSB re Bill 172 Feb 12, 2022

#### J - 1 **Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning**

- (a) Modified Day
- (b) Summer Programs for Students with Special Education Needs
- (c) Ltr – Wait Times for Psychological Assessments
- (d) The Ontario Human Rights Commission Report on the Right to Read

#### (e) **Next Meeting**

Thursday, April 21, 2022 | 6:00 PM | MS Teams Virtual Meeting.



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**(f) Adjournment**

Chair Rose called for adjournment.

Moved by: M. Gatopoulos

Seconded by: L. Boswell

THAT the SEAC 21-07 meeting held March 10, 2022 be adjourned at 8:25 PM.

**Carried**