



# Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday May 4, 2023

6:00 p.m.

MS Teams Virtual Meeting

## MINUTES

<b>Chair:</b>	L. DeJong, Social Worker, Lansdowne Children's Centre
<b>Community Reps:</b>	B. Bruce Vice Chair Jones K. Kelly W. Rose
<b>Trustees:</b>	Trustee Whiton Trustee Sloat (visiting) P. Bagchee, Manager, Mental Health and Well-Being A. Haidar, Information Technology F. Lainson, Program Co-ordinator Specialized Services
<b>Grand Erie Staff:</b>	J. Roberto, Director of Education J. Senior, Principal Leader, Specialized Services L. Sheppard, Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Coordinator L. Thompson, Superintendent of Education L. Boswell, Community Navigator, Contact Brant C. Gilman, Easter Seals Ontario
<b>Organizations/Agencies</b>	C. Stefanelli, Program Manager, Woodview Mental Health & Autism Services R. Vriends, Autism Ontario
<b>Guests:</b>	
<b>Absent:</b>	L. Nydam, Six Nations of the Grand River T. Buchanan, Supervisor of Employment Supports, Community Living Brant M. Gatopoulos
<b>Absent with regrets:</b>	J. Hooper, Principal Leader Mental Health Education and Student Support Services J. Valstar, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Education Trustee Waldschmidt
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	E. Roberts, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Education

### A - 1 **Opening**

#### (a) **Welcome / Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair DeJong called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and provided the Land Acknowledgement.

#### (b) **Roll Call/Reminder of Livestream on YouTube/Closed Captioning reminder**

A. Haidar, Information Technology, informed members the meeting is being broadcast via livestream on YouTube.

#### (c) **Agenda Additions/Deletions/Approval**

D-1 (b) The role of GEPIC Committee Representatives

Moved by: C. Stefanelli

Seconded by: W. Rose

THAT the May 4, 2023 Agenda be approved as amended.

**Carried**



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#### B - 1 Timed Items

##### (a) **Grand Erie's Annual Learning and Operating Plan (ALOP) for 2022-23 - Mid-term Update**

Superintendent Thompson presented highlights from Grand Erie's 2022-23 Annual Learning and Operating Plan Mid-term update. Questions were addressed from SEAC members. The topic of Mathematics Destreaming and the impact on students with special education needs was noted of interest and will be included as an information/discussion item for a future meeting.

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

##### (a) **Approval of Minutes**

Presented as printed.

Moved by: W. Rose

Seconded by: L. Boswell

THAT the Minutes dated April 6, 2023 be approved as presented.

**Carried**

##### (b) **Changes to Self-Contained Programs in Grand Erie 2023-24**

Superintendent Thompson provided updates to the committee about minimal changes to self-contained programs in Grand Erie for the 2023-24 school year.

In response to a question regarding accommodation for additional/new students requiring self-contained programs, Superintendent Thompson stated space is available and would be addressed if full capacity were reached. Professional learning opportunities for educators in self-contained programs will be provided.

SEAC members shared their desire to advocate in support of educators in these programs.

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

##### (a) **SEAC Representative to the Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC)**

Chair DeJong advised that a volunteer from SEAC is needed to serve on the GEPIC Committee for the 2023-24 school year.

##### (b) **The role of GEPIC Committee Representatives**

The general terms of the GEPIC Committee were explained. Members were requested to consider volunteering to be the GEPIC representative for 2023-24. This item will be brought back to the June meeting.

##### (c) **Dates for SEAC Meetings - Draft\***

Superintendent Thompson shared the proposed dates for SEAC meetings during the 2023-24 school year. Support for a combination of in-person and virtual meetings was conveyed. Consideration of scheduling some of the meetings earlier in the day was requested. This item will be brought back in June.



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### E - 1 Other Business

#### (a) Grand Erie's Special Education Plan 2022-23 - Draft

Members of the Specialized Services Management Team reviewed revisions to Grand Erie's Special Education Plan. A copy of the draft plan was shared electronically. Additional input may be provided to Jennifer Valstar, Executive Assistant to Superintendent Thompson by Friday, May 19, 2023.

### F - 1 Standing Items

#### (a) Policies Out for Comment

No policies or procedures have been circulated for comment since the previous update.

#### (b) Trustee Updates

Trustee Whiton shared highlights including the Artsoup workshops at Pauline Johnston C.&V.S. and Paris District H.S. on April 6, 2023 (Artsoup will be held again on May 16, 2023 at Waterford D.H.S. and Dunnville S.S.), and the open house at Six Nations Polytechnic (SNP) held on April 20, 2023.

#### (c) Chair/Vice Chair Updates

Chair DeJong and Vice-Chair Jones will meet with Superintendent Thompson in June for Committee activity planning for 2023-24.

### G - 1 Information Items

#### (a) Specialized Services Summer Program Offerings

L. Sheppard/F. Lainson provided an overview of the Specialized Services Summer Program offerings for the summer of 2023. Specific program details will be shared at the June meeting.

#### (b) June SEAC Meeting Format

To facilitate increased interaction/sharing, the June 15, 2023 meeting will be held as an in-person in the Board Room at the Education Centre. An MS Teams link will also be available for those unable to attend in person.

### H - 1 Community Updates - Nil

### I - 1 Correspondence

#### (a) Letter from Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB re: SIP Claim Funding\*

Presented as printed.

#### (b) LDAO Circular for April\*

Presented as printed.



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

- (a) OSSTF Inclusion Symposium – Summary Report
- (b) Report on the Right to Read – Update
- (c) Student Success – Feedback on Destreaming in Grand Erie (Sept. 2023)
- (d) Belonging Project (P. Bagchee - Sept 2023)

#### K - 1 **Next Meeting**

Thursday June 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., Education Centre Board Room.

#### L - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by K. Jones

Seconded by: W. Rose

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

**Carried**