



Special Education Advisory Committee

Thursday June 15, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Education Centre Boardroom with MS Teams link

MINUTES

Chair:	Vice Chair K. Jones, Community Representative
Community Reps:	K. Kelly L. Nydam W. Rose T. Sault
Trustees:	T. Waldschmidt L. Whiton J. Hertel, Information Technology J. Hooper, Principal Leader Mental Health Education and Student Support Services
Grand Erie Employees	L. Munro, Superintendent 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
Organizations/Agencies	C. Gilman, Easter Seals Ontario R. Vriends, Autism Ontario
Guests:	S. Bennett, Professor, Brock University M. Somma, Assistant Professor, Brock University P. Bagchee, Manager, Mental Health and Well-Being T. Buchanan, Supervisor of Employment Supports, Community Living Brant
Absent with regrets:	L. DeJong, Social Worker, Lansdowne Children's Centre M. Gatopoulos, Community Representative F. Lainson, Program Co-ordinator Specialized Services C. Stefanelli, Program Manager, Woodview Mental Health & Autism Services
Recording Secretary:	J. Valstar, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Education

A - 1 **Opening**

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

Due to technological difficulties, Vice-Chair Jones, in Chair DeJong's absence, called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

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

J. Hertel, Information Technology, informed members of the YouTube livestream. Vice-Chair Jones reminded members of the closed caption feature available in MS Teams

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

Moved by: W. Rose

Seconded by: L. Boswell

THAT the June 6, 2023 Agenda be approved, as presented.

Carried



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B - 1 Timed Items

(a) The Gifts You Bring

Principal Leader Senior led members in an 'ice breaker' activity where they shared why they joined SEAC, and what they contribute personally to the committee.

(b) Grand Erie's Response to the Right to Read – Early Literacy in Grand Erie – Update

Superintendent Munro gave an update on Grand Erie's response to Right to Read, and answered member questions about implementation of supports, how data is gathered, the type of data that is gathered, and how often assessments are done. Superintendent Munro will provide more information on structured literacy at a later date.

(c) Inclusive Model Update – Situational Analysis

S. Bennett and M. Somma explained the comprehensive situational analysis they will be executing in order to gauge the school community's climate on moving towards inclusion in Grand Erie. Data will be collected from employees, students, families, and community members utilizing surveys, interview questions, and focus groups to gather data. Once this first step of the analysis has been completed, S. Bennett and Team will present the data to the board indicating what the current climate is towards inclusion within Grand Erie.

(d) Snowball Activity

Deferred to the September SEAC meeting.

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

(a) Approval of Minutes

Presented as printed.

Moved by: L. Boswell

Seconded by: C. Gilman

THAT the Minutes dated May 4, 2023 be approved, as presented.

Carried

(b) SEAC Representative to Grand Erie Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC)

T. Waldschmidt will represent SEAC on GEPIC for the 2023-24 school year.

(c) Dates for SEAC Meetings 2023-24 – draft

Presented as printed. Option 1 was selected.

D - 1 New Business

(a) Summer Programs

L. Sheppard and Principal Leader Hooper walked members through the link to the summer programs on the Grand Erie website, explaining what is being offered, where to find information, and how to register.



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E - 1 Other Business

(a) Regional Special Education Council (RSEC) Update

Deferred to September

(b) Grand Erie's Special Education Plan 2022-23

Presented as printed.

Move by: W. Rose

Seconded by: K. Jones

THAT the Board approve the Annual Review of the Special Education Plan 2022-23, and the submission of the Special Education Report Components Checklist to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Education by July 31, 2023.

Carried

F - 1 Standing Items

(a) Policies Out for Comment

Nil

(b) Trustee Updates

Trustee Waldschmidt and Trustee Whiton shared their updates that included recent community events, and student success.

(c) Chair/Vice Chair Updates

Superintendent Thompson shared with committee members that F. Lainson, Program Coordinator Specialized Services, will be retiring at the end of June 2023, and thanked her for her many years of hard work in Special Education.

G - 1 Information Items - Nil

H - 1 Community Updates - Nil

I - 1 Correspondence

(a) LDAO Circular June 2023

Presented as printed

Members were informed they may send any comments/questions to J. Valstar, Executive Assistant to Liana Thompson.

J - 1 Future Agenda Items and SEAC Committee Planning

(a) OSSTF Inclusion Symposium – Summary Report (Sept 2023)

(b) Student Success – Feedback on Destreaming in Grand Erie (Sept 2023)

(c) Belonging project (Sept 2023)

(d) Regional Special Education Council (RSEC) Update (Sept 2023)

K - 1 Next Meeting

Thursday September 7, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the boardroom at the Education Centre. A virtual option will be provided.



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L - 1 **Adjournment**

Moved by: T. Sault

Seconded by: L. Boswell

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Carried