

SEAC Committee Meeting Minutes

Date & Time:	Wednesday, June 1, 2016 6:30 pm
Location:	Boardroom, C.E.C.
Next Meeting:	Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Committee Members: Jeanne Gravelle, Irene Holdbrook, Wendy Price, Rhonda Ruetz, Caitlin Barton, Shana Mcturk, Kim Murphy, Zina Bartolotta, John Gilbert, Amy Fee

Administrative Officials: Sherry Peeples, Laura Shoemaker

Regrets: Shana Mcturk

Opening Prayer Welcome Intentions and prayers were said for Trustee Johnson and Sherry led the meeting with a prayer.	Sherry Peeples
Approval of Agenda	
Motion by: Amy Fee Seconded: Wendy Price	
3. Declared Pecuniary Interest	
Amy Fee declared pecuniary interest regarding:	
5.1 Dog Guides Canada	
5.2 Service Dog Policy Questions and Answers	
4. Approval of the Minutes	
May 25, 2016 Minutes	
Motion by: Rhonda Ruetz	
Seconded: Caitlin Barton	
Coconada. Calam Barton	
5. School System Operational Business	
5.1 Dog Guides Canada (10 Minutes) Ian Ashworth, Director of Programs at Lion's Foundation of Canada, Dog Guides, gave a presentation to SEAC members. Autism Ontario has requested this presentation and it is for information only.	lan Ashworth



Lion's Foundation is a charitable organization and over thirty years ago started Dog Guides, which costs \$25,000. to train a guide dog. The dog guide breeding and training facility is located just outside Breslau.

lan gave a brief background on the six areas dog guides are being trained to work in:

Canine Vision Dog Guides

 Are specially trained to navigate busy streets, stairs escalators and other obstacles that are found on most daily routes

Hearing Ear Dog Guides

- Respond to sounds such as an alarm clock sounding, ringing phone and fire alarm
- Respond to hand signals if handler uses sign language

Special Skills Dog Guides

- Open and close doors
- Retrieve dropped items
- Can get help when needed

Seizure Response Dog Guides

- Bark for help
- Are able to activate an alert system
- Provide comfort after a seizure

Autism Assistance Dog Guides

- Provide calming relief for children in high anxiety situations
- Reduce the stress commonly experienced in public places

Diabetic Alert Doc Guides

- Bark for help
- Are able to activate an alert system
- Can retrieve food
- Provide comfort after a hypoglycemic episode

SEAC committee members were given the opportunity to ask the presenter questions.

5.2 Service Dog Policy Questions and Answers

A request was received to present the Service Dog Policy to SEAC. The revised policy includes all service dogs. Laura described the certified service dog and the handler:

"Certified Service Dogs, for the purpose of the Board's policy, regulation and administrative procedure, includes all trained and registered service dogs who are handled by a student with a disability who receives the dog's services to assist with daily living activities and/or access to the Ontario curriculum, which is readily apparent (obvious by the dog's appearance or what it is doing) or identified as a requirement in a letter from a physician or nurse. A Certified Service Dog is a working dog and does *not* interact with employees or other students.

Handler (dog handler) for the purpose of the Board's policy, regulation and administrative procedure is the student with disability related needs for whom the Certified Service Dog is performing services and who is managing and is responsible for the Certified Service Dog's performance of those services. It is the expectation of the Board that students utilizing a Certified Service Dog will be the dog's Handler."

All service dog requests are dealt with on a case by case, individualized basis. SEAC committee members were given the opportunity to ask the presenter questions.

L. Shoemaker/ L. Notten



5.3 COPE Presentation

Kristy McDonnell from St Mary's High School introduced Kristy Cook and Carey Thompson also from the same school. All three staff members are running the COPE program in the special education class at this school. They have partnered with Student Success to create this program and feel it has been very successful. Amanda Warne, Mental Health Lead has worked with staff on this project. They do a morning check in every morning with the students enrolled in the program and let them know they are being supported. They have guest speakers come in and build connections and cultivate relationships with the students with a lot of journaling and self-reflection. Every Friday they have celebratory breakfasts, it started off with the staff cooking breakfast now the students are partaking with the cooking.

Kristy showed the pictures one of the students did to show what she thought represented each person in the class along with a few sentences. It was a very thoughtful and touching presentation. Students went to three lessons at Sunrise Therapeutic Horseback riding and it was a big hit with the students. Staff have worked on re-engaging the students and engaging them. Attendance improved after a couple of weeks because the kids like the program. Due to its success COPE will be offered in September for the first term.

SEAC committee members were given the opportunity to ask the presenter questions.

Kristy McDonnell presented Laura Shoemaker with a COPE hard cover book from the program and thank Laura for her support.

5.4 Monthly Agenda Items 2016-2017

SEAC discussed which items should be on a list to be discussed next year at the meetings. List consists of:

- 1. IPRC and IEP policy and procedures
- 2. Special Needs Strategy
- 3. Pro Grant to be put on every agenda from Oct-April
- 4. P.A. Days Special Education Programming
- 5. Mental Health/ Well being
- 6. Community Transition Resource Officer along with Conestoga College Developmentally Challenged Support Program.
- 7. St. Jerome's Shad program
- 8. Assistive technology and Augmentative CommunicationTopics from Pro Grants Presentation, in particular Sacramental Preparation, Math for Special Needs
- 9. Special Education Plan/Budget (focus of the two May meetings)

Locations for off sites: WRPS North Division location, Carizon, WRFN, KidsAbility, Langs Farm, Communitech, St Don Bosco, St Jerome's University Laura and Jeanne will meet in late June and align the topics with the monthly agenda and then send it out to SEAC members.

6. Ministry Updates

6.1 Special Needs Strategy will meet later this month.

Laura Shoemaker

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Kristy McDonnell

7. SEAC Committee Functions

7.1 Special Education Plan

Laura took Special Education to the Board on May 30, 2016 to show the alignment with SEAC and all the presentations that have occurred the past school year.

Laura Shoemaker



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7.2 SEAC Sub-Committee Update	
Pro Grant was submitted and expect a reply in October or November to the	
submission.	Jeanne Gravelle
8. Policy Advice to the Board	
9. Association Concerns/Association Updates	
(20 minutes)	
9.1 Trustee Update	
Wendy Price and Amy Fee informed SEAC members of the events that trustees	Wendy Price
have been attending in May:	Amy Fee
2016-17 Extended Day Program Sites were announced	,
Increase in graduation rates	
 Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Program for students under 18 as 	
a last resort to assist students to helping continue their progress toward	
graduation or other achievement	
Special Education Plan was approved	
https://www.wcdsb.ca/about/board/bulletins/WCDSB-Board-Bulletin-May-2016.pdf	
Integration of the particular	
Amy Fee mentioned Bridges to Belonging which focuses on building a community	
where everyone belongs.	
misto oronyono solongo.	
Jeanne Gravelle informed SEAC that WRFN is having a family picnic on June 9th	
from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm at Victoria Park.	
Thom 5.50 pm to 6.60 pm at victoria r ark.	
WRFN and Bridges to Belonging have created a new program called A New	
Chapter: Families Moving Forward for families/caregivers of young adults with	
disabilities. Meeting, Wed, June 8, 7-9pm at the Family Centre	
usasinies. Meeting, Wet, June 0, 7-3pm at the Family Centre	
Phonds Buotz thanked Vikki Zahal for arranging the social tenight and for the	
Rhonda Ruetz thanked Vikki Zabel for arranging the social tonight and for the refreshments and for recording the minutes for the meetings throughout the past	
year.	
10. Pending Items	
11. Adjournment	
Motion by: Amy Fee	
Seconded: Rhonda Ruetz	
Coolingon Infolia Marie	
12. Action Items Place Holder	
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