Present:

SEAC Members:
Sue Wilson (Chair), Trustee
Karen McAllister, Trustee
Christina Nichols, Association for Bright Children of Ontario
James Borer (Vice Chair), VOICE
Fran Brauneisen, Association for Community Living
Joe Sparling, Easter Seals – Ontario
Diane Bartlett, Alternate Member for Easter Seals Ontario

Regrets:
Claire Hubbard, Alternate Member for the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder Association
Dave Conners, Autism Ontario

Guests:
Lynn Wattie, Parent, St. Gregory, Carleton Place
Rhonda Peterson (Student Support Worker & Vice President – Local CUPE)
Sanya St. Amand, Parent, Holy Cross School, Kemptville

Membership:

Meeting Called to Order

Sue Wilson (Chair) called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and welcomed all members and guests. Sue had all members and guests introduce themselves and thanked everyone for coming out this evening.

Opening Prayer

Tom Jordan led the group in a March Lenten Prayer for SEAC.
I. Approval of Agenda

The following items were added to the draft agenda that was sent out;
- SEAC Member Absence Protocol/Procedures
- CDSBEO Board of Trustees Meetings – Public Start Time

Moved by: James Borer
Seconded by: Christina Nichols     CARRIED

II. Approval of Minutes – February 29th, 2012

The February 29th SEAC recommendation around the Employee Training Module on the Accessibility Standards for Customer Services in draft February 29th, 2012, SEAC minutes was amended to read as follows:

Recomendation: That the Board review the Employee Training Module (which SEAC feels is inadequate) on the Accessibility Standards for Customer Service and share with SEAC whether or not there is a more up to date/accurate training package available, and this package should be updated before it is used again.

Moved by: James Borer
Seconded by: Karen McAllister     CARRIED

III. Association Updates

VOICE – James Borer
Flyers for the 20th Annual VOICE Conference at Guelph University on Saturday, May 5th, 2012, were shared with SEAC;
- The conference will feature some live webcasts.
- James is working on getting these made available free of charge for those who are unable to attend the conference.
- James is also co-presenting on Advocacy at this event.
- VOICE will be accessing Twitter and live webcasts to connect people from all over the world to ask questions of presenters (and a group of volunteers will be working to answer/address questions that presenters cannot get to).
- Minister of Health, Debra Matthews, will be attending the conference.
- More information can be obtained by emailing James at jamesborer@gmail.com
May is Deaf and Hard of Hearing month;
- VOICE will be presenting at the ‘Dress Down Day’ at St. Jude School, in Vankleek Hill.
- CDSBEO is also participating with UCDSB to provide a day when deaf and hard of hearing students from both Boards will get together to learn from one another and foster, rekindle friendships.
Easter Seals – Ontario – Joe Sparling
No report at this time.

Association for Community Living – Fran Brauneisen
- Gordon Porter’s webinar is being broadcast on Wednesday, March 28th, 2012, on the Community Living Ontario website. The webinar will be archived and available on the Community Living Ontario website www.communitylivingontario.ca
- Tickets for the local comedy night are selling well. The tickets are available at the Scotia Bank, in Kemptville.

Association for Bright Children of Ontario – Christina Nichols
No report at this time.

IV. Department Update

Our Roots of Empathy Refresher Training Day was held Friday, March 2nd, 2012.

Tom Jordan met with a representative of the South East CCAC (Community Care Access Centre) and the Upper Canada District School Board on Tuesday, March 6th, 2012. The purpose of the meeting was to look for ways to:
- increase understanding (how to refer, who to refer, areas served, etc.)
- update and improve the CCAC website
- connect with Eastern Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) to work towards common messaging/procedures across all eight counties.

Our Team met with the developers of the software (TPM) for our new IEPs on Monday, March 18th, 2012. This meeting also included representatives from neighbouring Boards who are working with the same provider/developer.

We are starting to work with our Community Partners to develop a Suicide Prevention/Intervention Protocol. Kevin Cameron has been involved in some of the initial discussions and is helping to provide us with direction.

CDSBEO Special Education School Reviews update;
- The process has started.
- A member of the team will be visiting each school to spend some time on IEP implementation.

We hosted a meeting with Pathways for Children and Youth (ASD students) and UCDSB on March 26th, 2012.

Restorative Reflections Newsletter is almost ready and will be sent out to all SEAC members within the next few days.
Dr. Hawes and Tom Jordan will be attending the Regional Safe Schools Ministry Forum at the North Grenville Centre on March 29th, 2012.

We are hosting a Secondary DI (Differentiated Instruction) Plus one on April 11th, 2012.

Mental Health Initiative update:
- Our PIC (Parent Involvement Committee) has indicated they would like to provide Regional Forums on Mental Health for Parents.
- Special Education has been asked to help facilitate these sessions.
- The proposed format will be similar to the Alvin Law presentations in the fall of 2010 (that is a session with Secondary students during the day, and parents at night).
- One of the items for the agenda could be the proposed Charter of Rights for Mental Health and how we connect this with our Gospel Values.
- These nights could also be an opportunity for parents/stakeholders to provide input into this proposed Charter of Rights for Mental Health.

V. Presentation

Principal of Special Education, Tom Jordan, provided an interactive update/demonstration on MyHealth Magazine, an online mental health resource for students (Grade 7 and up), staff and parents, developed by Dr. Darcy Santor and his team;
- SEAC was shown how the Home Page works www.myhealthmagazine.net This allows students, staff and parents to register and create their own unique password and login.
  - School Principals (for all schools with Grade 7 and up) can provide the access code information to allow students, staff and parents to register.
  - There are three versions of the resource: For Young People (this is the one our students use), For College Students and Adults, and For Educators.
  - There is a demonstration site (off the Home Page) that anyone can access, but not all of the features/resources are available.
  - The Home Page also contains information about workshops that can be accessed, and helpful information that can be downloaded and printed.
  - The Dashboard allows CDSBEO to maintain control of the content by turning on and off certain features.
  - The site contains short articles, facts, question and answer’s, forums, quizzes, screeners and links all designed to inform and engage young people around Mental Health and Mental Wellness.
- SEAC members then had the opportunity to login to a computer at the meeting and explore the MyHealth Magazine demo site to try out some of the features. Questions were addressed and collected, and ways to continue to promote the use of the resource were discussed.

Sue Wilson thanked Tom Jordan for providing an update on this valuable Mental Health/Wellness resource that is available free of charge (for the participant) to all our students, staff and parents in Grade 7 and up in our CDSBEO schools.
VI. New Business

- 2011-2012 Annual Report to the Ministry on the Provision of Special Education Programs and Services update;
  - New drafts were distributed for Chapters:
    - Chapter 1 – Introduction
    - Chapter 6 – Special Education Placements Provided by the Board
    - Chapter 7 – Provincial and Demonstration School
    - Note: the missing numbers on Page 1 and Page 37 will be filled in when they are available (and before the final draft is distributed).
- A discussion took place about the procedures that SEAC has used to record the absence of members in the official minutes. It was agreed that we would explore;
  - whether or not there is a formal protocol, and
  - what has been the past practice.
- Sue Wilson informed the SEAC members that as of Tuesday, April 3rd, 2012, the Public Session of all CDSBEO Board of Trustee meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m., instead of 7:00 p.m.

VII. Review of our 2011-2012 SEAC Goals and Priorities
(established at the SEAC meeting June, 2011)

- Invite Jill Bobula (Author) to share some of her books on special needs learners. Completed at the November 30th, 2011 SEAC meeting.
- Provide a presentation on the implementation of our new IEP software/tools. Completed at the September 28th, 2011 SEAC meeting.
- Review the CDSBEO Parental Communication tools/strategies as a means to continue to improve communication and enhance parental involvement. Addressed at the October 26th, 2011 Parent Involvement Committee/SEAC Summit and at the January 25th, 2012 SEAC meeting.
- Department to identify a staff member who can provide school teams with information, assistance and resources for FASD.
- Share best practices with regards to preparing high needs students for staff changes.
- To review the learning opportunities for staff and students with regards to MyHealth Magazine. Addressed at the March 28th, 2012 SEAC meeting.
- At the SEAC meeting on August 31st, 2011, the following additional ideas were put forward for consideration:
  - A presentation on Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). Completed at the November 30th, 2011 SEAC meeting.
  - An update on Technology.
  - Review the training of staff for people with disabilities. Completed at the February 29th, 2012 SEAC meeting.
- All SEAC members are invited to send in their ideas for rank, ordering these priorities, to Tom Jordan at Tom.Jordan@cdsbeo.on.ca as it will be difficult to complete all of these goals/priorities this school year.
VIII. Good News Sharing

Members and guests shared items of good news from across our eight counties.

IX. Next Meeting

A reminder that on April 25th, 2012, the SEAC meeting will be hosted by St. Andrew Catholic School, St. Andrew’s West, and will begin at 7:00 p.m.

X. Closing Prayer

Tom Jordan led the group in a Hail Mary as a Closing Prayer.

XI. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Moved by: James Borer
Seconded by: Joe Sparling CARRIED

Sue Wilson adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m. and thanked everyone for coming out to this meeting.