

**GREATER ESSEX COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
REPORT OF THE  
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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The Special Education Advisory Committee meeting was held on **Tuesday, January 14, 2020** at the Administration Office.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Cathy Cooke, Trustee  
Aimee Omstead, Trustee  
Martha Vukov, Community Living Windsor-Essex County  
Mary-Ann Fuduric, Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor-Essex County  
Monica Gilles, Windsor-Essex County Down Syndrome Association  
Karen Wilson, Parents for Children's Mental Health  
Jan Matte-Gasparovic, Autism Ontario  
Sheila Ruggaber, Epilepsy Southwestern Ontario  
Bette Turner, Home and School Instruction

**BOARD PERSONNEL**

Mike Wilcox, Superintendent of Special Education Services  
Kristie Sweet, Supervising Principal of Special Education Services

**REGRETS**

Michelle Lowes, OPC Elementary Representative  
Theresa Williams, OPC Secondary Representative

**ABSENT**

Kimberly John, Indigenous Community Representative

**RECORDER**

Peggy Russette

1. Call to Order

M. Wilcox called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2. Elections for Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

**Election of Chairperson:**

We have always alternated years (trustee one year, association next year, for chair of SEAC)

M. Wilcox established that quorum was obtained and declared nominations open for the position of Chairperson of SEAC for the year 2020. M. Wilcox explained the job description of the chairperson.

Moved by: B. Turner

That A. Omstead be nominated as Chairperson of the SEAC for the year 2020.

M. Wilcox asked for any other nominations. There were no other nominations.

M. Wilcox declared A. Omstead as the Chairperson for the 2020 year by acclamation.

A. Omstead then took her position as Chairperson and continued the election for Vice Chairperson.

**Election of Vice Chairperson:**

A. Omstead declared nominations open for the position of Vice Chairperson of SEAC for the year 2020.

Moved by: K. Wilson

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That M. Fuduric be nominated as Vice Chairperson of SEAC for the year 2020.

A. Omstead asked for any other nominations. There were no other nominations.

A. Omstead declared M. Fuduric as the Vice Chairperson for the 2020 year by acclamation.

Motion to close nominations

Moved by: B. Turner

8. New Business

M. Wilcox and K. Sweet have gone through the Special Education Plan, flagging what needs to be revised. They will bring these revisions to the committee in February to start work on the plan. Budget information will most likely come closer to the end of the school year.

M. Wilcox read a letter from the Durham School Board regarding the inactive status of the Ministry Advisory Committee on Special Education (MACSE). B. Turner suggested that we take this information to our local MP/MPP. The committee would like to write a similar letter to the Ministry.

Moved by: J. Matte Gasparovic

Seconded by: K. Wilson

That SEAC draft a letter to send to the Ministry regarding the inactive status of the Ministry Advisory Committee on Special Education. The motion was carried.

9. Association Reports

B. Turner – Things are quiet right now. Being careful to respect sanctions.

K. Wilson – The next meeting will be held on February 6<sup>th</sup> at the Community Living Windsor building.

S. Ruggaber – March is Epilepsy Awareness Month. The Purple Door School Campaign will be in March.

J. Matte-Gasparovic – There will be a symposium held on March 31st at the Caboto. The presenter at this symposium is Temple Grandin. Cost is \$10.00 per person.

M. Vukov – Community Living Essex is holding a workshop for girls 16 years and over. The presentation is titled "Ruby" and it will cover personal safety assault prevention. In the planning stages is Reaction for Inclusion, breakaway day for students. Career Compass Employment Services is gearing up for the summer program. Information will be sent to schools.

10. Distribution

11. Adjournment

Moved by: K. Wilson

Seconded by: B. Turner

The meeting adjourned at 1:53 pm.

Aimee Omstead, Chairperson  
Special Education Advisory Committee

Mike Wilcox, Administrative Liaison  
Special Education Advisory Committee

**NEXT MEETING February 11, 2020**

Board Meeting Minutes Available on GECD SB Website

<https://publicboard.ca/Board/Meetings/Pages/default.aspx>

Erin Kelly  
Director of Education

Mike Wilcox  
Administrative Liaison

(Ministry SEAC Website) [www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/seac/](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/seac/)