



**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**S.E.A.C.**

**Minutes**

**Date: Wednesday, January 20, 2022**

**Google Meet: [meet.google.com/adc-sqaj-gfj](https://meet.google.com/adc-sqaj-gfj)**

**Time: 3:00pm - 5:00pm**

**Attendance:** Rose Burton Spohn, Joe Chilelli, Theresa Coccimiglio,  
Irma DiRenzo, Sherri Kitts, Jared Lambert, Tina Newell (Coombs),  
Gary Trembinski, Danny Viotto, Rosanne Zagordo

**Student Trustees and Guests:** Melissa Abbott, Victoria Chlebus, Adam Morgenstern, Justin Pino, Jenna Viotto, Sherri Viotto  
Heidi Zagordo

**Regrets:** Lorna Connolly Beattie, Lori Ivey, Jacques Ribout, Sandra Turco

AGENDA ITEMS		ACTION	WHO	WHEN
1.	Happy New Year, Welcome, Introductions and Prayer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Welcome new Director</li> <li>● Member Stepping Down</li> <li>● Farewell to our current Director</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Board prayer was said by all.</li> <li>● Introductions were done.</li> <li>● We welcome Danny Viotto as our new Director of Education. SEAC members look forward to working with Danny.</li> <li>● Lorna Connolly Beattie, member at large, has stepped down from SEAC.</li> </ul>	Rosanne Zagordo  Theresa Coccimiglio	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you and farewell to Rose Burton Spohn. SEAC members wish her well in her retirement.</li> </ul>		
2.	ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (December 8, 2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes were accepted.</li> </ul>	Sherri Kitts Irma DiRenzo	
3.	AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES			
4.	<p>GUEST(s): REPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ILS presentation</li> <li>• SMC student trustees</li> <li>• Justin Pino- Financial Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 3 teachers from ILS presented about the ILS program.</li> <li>• Highlights of the presentation can be found in the slideshow</li> <li>• ILS 1,2, and 3 programs were described to the members and described the goal of each section.</li> <li>• Students in these programs are working on an alternative program; can work towards a Certificate of Accomplishment but generally will not meet criteria for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Classes are capped at 16, 16 and 8.</li> <li>• All students have gone through the IPRC process and hold an IEP. .</li> <li>• Students are included in all areas of highschool.</li> <li>• Programs are individualized and different goals are being met.</li> <li>• Inclusion at SMC through IMPACT initiatives. Photos are sent in about people learning online</li> <li>• Student/staff support online learning and supported technology</li> <li>• Technology is being used for online learning, LMS and Google Meet are accessible and laptops were provided to those students who didn't have any</li> <li>• Multitude of classes used Desmos (used in grade 11 for graphing)</li> <li>• Justin Pino, presented an updated SEAC financial report.</li> </ul>	<p>Melissa Abbott Sherri Viotto Heidi Zagordo</p> <p>Adam Morgenstern Jenna Viotto</p> <p>Justin Pino</p>	
5.	MINISTRY UPDATES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As of Dec. 8 we have received 28 memos from the Ministry of Ed and attended many conference calls.</li> <li>• PPM-132 related to PLARS has been updated. boards have been asked to update this policy.</li> <li>• An update that retired teachers can increase their supply teaching days up to 95 days a year has occurred.</li> </ul>	Rose Burton Spohn	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students who have not yet graduated from faculties can now start teaching early into schools</li> <li>● Delay to in person learning happened and students returned Jan 17.</li> <li>● N95 masks have arrived to all staff who would like to use one, however, the medical masks are still of value.</li> <li>● Rapid Antigen Testing kits have arrived- 2 per person and intended when people are symptomatic. Additional shipments are expected.</li> <li>● Booster shot clinics are being made available and disclosure of Dose 3 will be uploaded to our site.'</li> <li>● Fully vaccinated is still defined as 2 doses.</li> <li>● New guidance was received from Ministry of Health with updates to staff and families</li> <li>● Update to the school screening tool was issued and the requirements for people to isolate is creating problems with replacing staff</li> <li>● MACSE sent out information to ask for agenda items.</li> </ul>		
6.	<p>SEAC BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Letter from Waterloo Region DSB-FASD</li> <li>● Letter from Niagara DSBN</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The letter from Waterloo Region DSB supports Bill 172. An excerpt from the letter is as follows:</li> <li>● “It is essential that education staff including teachers, educational assistants, early childhood educators, and those involved directly with students are aware of FASD, able to recognize the early signs and symptoms, and trained to provide appropriate accommodations. Greater awareness and inclusion of FASD in each Board of Education’s policies and guidelines is an important step in achieving equitable access to high quality education for all students”</li> <li>● An excerpt from the letter from Niagara DSBN states: “While we acknowledge that there are ongoing Provincial level discussions occurring across various Ministries, in regard to the nursing shortage, we request that this issue be the top priority for this government and that an immediate and accessible solution be developed to allow all children access to the learning they require and deserve.</li> </ul>	Rosanne Zagordo	

7.	BUSINESS CARRIED FORWARD			
8.	SUPERINTENDENT AND COORDINATOR'S REPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remote/In person Learning update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joe reviewed the board's criteria for in person learning during the shut down.</li> <li>Special Education staff continue to support learners both online and in person. Such supports include; Assistive Technology, Counselling, Speech and Language support, Behaviour consultations and support to name a few.</li> </ul>	Joe Chilleli	
i	North Shore Tribal Council (S. Kitts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No report at this time. Still working from home.</li> </ul>	Sherri Kitts	
ii	AUTISM ONTARIO SSM CHAPTER PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (I. DiRenzo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Irma would like to continue the discussion about In person learning should there be another shut down.No report at this time.</li> </ul>	Irma DiRenzo	
iii	ALGOMA FAMILY SERVICES (T. Coccimiglio)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The doors are still closed due to renovations. Virtual support</li> </ul>	Theresa Coccimiglio	
v	ALGOMA PUBLIC HEALTH (L. Ivey)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No report at this time.</li> </ul>	Lori Ivey	
vi	THRIVE – WELL BEING COMMITTEE ( T. Coombs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As of March of 2022, any children diagnosed with ASD and registered through APH have been sent out invitations across Algoma for the Entry to School program.</li> </ul>	Tina (Newell) Coombs	
viii	COMMUNITY LIVING ALGOMA (J. Ribout)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No report at this time.</li> </ul>	Jacques Ribout	
x	MEMBER-AT-LARGE – FOCUS ON FAITH ( Irma DiRenzo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No report at this time.</li> </ul>	Irma DiRenzo	
xi	TRUSTEES REPORT ( G. Trembinski, S.Turco)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MInutes were accepted from SEAC meeting</li> <li>Premiere Ford announced we are starting to open Ontario in I March.</li> </ul>	Gary Trembinski	
9.	Minutes by: Rosanne Zagordo Adjournment: 5:10 pm			

Next Meeting: February 23, 2022  
Time: 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

