



**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
S.E.A.C.
Minutes**

Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022

Location:
Time: 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Attendance: Karisa Ceglarz, Irma DiRenzo, Sherri Kitts, Jared Lambert,
Fil Lettieri, Jacques Ribout, Gary Trembinski, Rosanne Zagordo

Student Trustees and Guests:

Regrets: Theresa Coccimiglio, Melanie Ross, Sandra Turco, Danny Viotto, Owen Middleton, Jenna Viotto

Google Meet Link: meet.google.com/xxa-eatt-vez

AGENDA ITEMS		ACTION	WHO	WHEN
1.	PRAYER FOR SEAC Welcome, Land Acknowledgment and Prayer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prayer was said by everyone. 		
2.	ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (September 28, 2022)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes were approved. 	Gary Trembinski Sherri Kitts	
3.	AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES			
4.	GUEST(s): REPORTS and Presentations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report will be shared at the next meeting. 	Jenna Viotto Owen Middleton	

- SMC Trustees
- Student Census Survey
- Mental Health Update

Student Census

- The Ministry of Education is requiring school boards to collect student demographic data (i.e., identity-based data including Indigenous identity, ethnic origin, race and religion) in accordance with the Anti-Racism Act.
- **The Why:**
 - Promote equitable and inclusive learning environments in our schools through evidence informed decision-making on policies, school/system improvement planning, training for staff and targeted programs/supports to enhance student achievement.
 - Identify, monitor and address barriers to student success and well-being (i.e., inequities with student course enrollment, suspensions/expulsions, exclusions and Special Ed. services)

Survey Details:

- The survey is voluntary, anonymous and confidential.
- There are two surveys (K to Gr. 6; Grade 7 to 12). Survey will be administered online.
- K to Grade 6 survey will be completed by the parent/guardian and the Gr. 7 to 12 survey will be completed by students during the school day.
- The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.
- There are four parts: Questions about (1) Child/Self (2) Family (3) School (4) Well-Being
- Questions will require that participants select the answer that best describes them and what they think; there are no right or wrong answers.
- Participants may choose to skip questions if they do not wish to provide answers.
- The HSCDSB respects the privacy of our students and families. Data will be collected in a secure manner as directed by applicable privacy legislation and best practices.
- Reports will not single out or identify a student or family. Data will only be reported in a summarized way to highlight system needs.

Fil Lettieri

		<p>Mental Health Update:</p> <p>The Mental Health team will be participating in a foundational training for students with Autism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Mental Health team will be attending a workshop for Identity training. The Student and Family Counsellors will be attending. ● A suite of resources will be released to the Board. <p>CUPE Collective Bargaining</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ School boards will be provided with a 5 day notice of strike ➢ Contingency Plans will be put in place, subject to Ministry direction 	Jared Lambert	
5.	MINISTRY UPDATES	<p>Catch Up Payments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Students (up to 18 years old) can receive \$200 per child, while students with special education needs (up to 21 years old) can receive \$250. ➢ Applications remain open until March 31, 2023. <p>Extension of Tutoring Supports Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ School boards are now able to deliver the \$175M Tutoring Supports Program until March 31, 2023 and are able to use any unspent funds from the first half of the program to this extended timeline. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EQAO Results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Results reveal stable performance in the OSSLT and relative stability in Grade 6 reading and writing results. ➢ There is weaker performance in math across all grades and reading and writing in Grade 3. ➢ The impact of the pandemic is being observed in reading and math achievement, and these results are in line with what we are observing in other jurisdictions, both across Canada and internationally. ➢ Results will be made public on November 3rd. ● Numeracy/Literacy Supports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Over the last three years, investments in Numeracy have included school-based math coaches, board math leads, subsidies for Additional Qualifications in math, digital math tools in classrooms and more one-on-one virtual math tutoring through Mathify and Eurêka! ➢ With the return to normalcy, it is expected that these investments will be fully leveraged this year. ➢ This year, the ministry will also work directly with school boards through new Math Action Teams that will have expertise in promoting the use of high-impact math teaching practices in Ontario classrooms, with a focus 	Fil Lettieri	

on early interventions.

- The ministry is also providing an additional \$15 million for school boards to offer a digital tool aligned with the Ontario curriculum to support students, parents, and educators
- Beginning in 2023-24, the ministry will require all students in publicly-funded schools in year 2 of Kindergarten to Grade 2 to be screened for reading twice a year using evidence-based early screening tools. The second screening would be optional for students meeting or exceeding the benchmark.

Numeracy/Literacy Supports:

- Over the last three years, investments in Numeracy have included school-based math coaches, board math leads, subsidies for Additional Qualifications in math, digital math tools in classrooms and more one-on-one virtual math tutoring through Mathify and Eurêka!
- With the return to normalcy, it is expected that these investments will be fully leveraged this year.
- This year, the ministry will also work directly with school boards through new Math Action Teams that will have expertise in promoting the use of high-impact math teaching practices in Ontario classrooms, with a focus on early interventions.
- The ministry is also providing an additional \$15 million for school boards to offer a digital tool aligned with the Ontario curriculum to support students, parents, and educators
- Beginning in 2023-24, the ministry will require all students in publicly-funded schools in year 2 of Kindergarten to Grade 2 to be screened for reading twice a year using evidence-based early screening tools. The second screening would be optional for students meeting or exceeding the benchmark.

Modernizing the Curriculum

- The ministry is also continuing to modernize curriculum to ensure learning is current, evidence-informed and prepares students for the job and life skills they need to thrive. This includes a focus on math, science, computer studies, business studies, technological education and pathways for the skilled trades, in addition to the new mandatory Indigenous-focused learning to be added to the Social Studies, Grades 1-3 curriculum for

		<p>implementation in September 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The ministry will develop and release a Curriculum Review Guide that includes a regular curriculum review cycle that ensures curriculum is up to date and relevant to important job and life skills. <p>Pathways for the Skilled Trades</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Ministry will continue to work to ensure that students have more opportunities to be exposed to skilled trades early and more easily transition into these high-demand careers. 		
6.	<p>SEAC BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MACSE input ● Review Letter on PPM 81 ● Final K-12 Education SDC ● Recruiting and Succession Planning ● SEAC member steps down 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Final K-12 Education SDC will be deferred to November ● We are in the processing of collecting the meeting dates for Catholic School Councils so that we can have a representative from SEAC talk about being a member. ● A script will be prepared and brought forward to CSC members. 	Irma DiRenzo Rosanne Zagordo	
7.	<p>BUSINESS CARRIED FORWARD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meeting Times ● Final K-12 Education SDC 			November
8.	<p>SUPERINTENDENT AND COORDINATOR'S REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● North Counsellor ● CCAT update ● Transition to School Community Meeting 	<p>Student and Family Counsellor Position</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One of our counselors in the East will be supporting the North schools virtually. <p>CCAT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All Grade 4 students will once again be participating in a group administered assessment. The Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test (CCAT 7) is a standardized screening tool that provides information with regards to a student's ability to problem solve, use new information, and think critically. ● The data provided through this screening tool will serve multiple purposes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Initial Screening Tool for Eligibility into the HSCDSB Enrichment Program ➤ Monitor and Inform Student and Class Profiles at the School Level ➤ Monitor and Inform System Level Data 	Fil Lettieri Rosanne Zagordo	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students with CCAT scores at the 97th%ile on any of the three scales will be brought to ISET and a referral package will be submitted for testing for giftedness. Results will be sent home to the families and a copy will be placed in the student's OSR. Eligible students will participate in an after school Enrichment Program for grades 4, 5 and 6. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade 6 - February - March Grade 5 - March - April Grade 4 - April - May Kasia Ceglarz has agreed to represent SEAC on the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC). The first meeting is November 14th. Rosanne will be attending the Transition to School Community Meeting to support our students with exceptional learning needs who are entering school for September 2023. 		
a.	North Shore Tribal Council (S. Kitts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sherri continues to work with Holy Cross school administration to support students. The presentation by Natalie will be held on November 23, 2022. 	Sherri Kitts	
b.	AUTISM ONTARIO SSM CHAPTER PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (I. DiRenzo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please see the link: https://www.autismontario.com/programs-services/learning-resources 	Irma DiRenzo	
c.	ALGOMA FAMILY SERVICES (T. Coccimiglio)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No report at this time. 		
d.	THRIVE – WELL BEING COMMITTEE (K. Ceglarz)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart start hubs that will be coming into the community. THRIVE is working with community partners to develop the questions. Partners such as APH, AFS, the hospital, CAS, Child Care centers etc. Intake coordinators will support the family; there are 3 of these workers. Presentation to LRTs and P/VPs is recommended. Rosanne will follow up with an email to Kasia. 	Kasia Ceglarz	December
e.	COMMUNITY LIVING ALGOMA (J. Robout)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presentation from Shelley Moore on October 24, 2022, was well attended. There are resources that are available on her site: https://blogsomemoore.com/about/ 	Jacquest Ribout	
f.	MEMBER-AT-LARGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chelsy-Jane Hannah has stepped down from SEAC. 		

	(C. Hannah)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She was thankful for her time on SEAC and hopes to return as a member at large again in the future. 		
g.	MEMBER-AT-LARGE – FOCUS ON FAITH (I. Direnzo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report at this time 		
h.	TRUSTEES REPORT (G. Trembinski, S. Turco)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jared Lambert's presentation on Mental Health at the Board meeting was well received. • The election for Chair and Vice Chair will take place in November and the appointments for the committees will take place after that. 	Gary Trembinski	
9.	NOTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjournment 5:45 pm 	Kasiz Ceglarz Gary Trembinski	

Next Meeting: November 23, 2022

Location: Room #6 Board Office/Google meet link will be available via email.

Time: 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.